

Commons debate put off to autumn

No 10 admits Maastricht bill seems doomed

BY ROBIN OAKLEY IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND NICHOLAS WOOD IN LONDON

THE government signalled yesterday for the first time that it might not be able to save the Maastricht treaty.

John Major, who is facing a revolt that has cast doubt on cabinet unity, indicated in Rio de Janeiro that hopes are fading that the 12 European Community states will be able to sign the treaty, which paves the way to closer political and economic union.

It was disclosed in London that all Commons debate on the bill to ratify the treaty and on the implications of the Danish referendum will be postponed until at least the autumn. Yesterday, a senior cabinet minister said he was "not seeking to excite expectations" of such a debate before the House rose for the summer recess. There is also growing doubt that the problem can be solved during Britain's six-month presidency of the EC, which begins next month.

In another sign that Mr Major is bowing to ministerial and backbench pressure to

abandon the bill, Downing Street sources admitted that they could be doomed. They said that if the Irish and French referendums on Maastricht resulted in rejection, the fate of the bill would need to be "radically reassessed". However, the official position remained that the government had not given up hope of a breakthrough. "As things stand at the moment, even with the Denmark vote, we intend to move ahead with ratification," one Downing Street official said.

The tactical retreats in London were in stark contrast to statements by Mr Major and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, immediately after the Danish vote. They emphasised that Britain intended to press ahead with ratification of the treaty.

According to officials travelling with the prime minister, Mr Major has abandoned hope of an early solution and believes that everything is up in the air until the Danes tell the other 11 what they really want. He is also furious with President Mitterrand for calling the French referendum on ratification of the treaty. He believes that the poll has been called to meet Mitterrand's domestic difficulties and that it risks wrecking the deal. He fears that the French may vote down the treaty merely because of Mitterrand's deep unpopularity.

Mr Major believes that the Irish will endorse the treaty in their referendum next Thursday but, even if they do not, some accommodation could be found. However, he concedes that a French no vote or a further rejection of the treaty in a second Danish referendum would kill it stone dead.

Mr Major will not countenance any effort to expel the Danes or to ease them out of the Community, insisting that there is no mechanism for doing so. He has no hopes of early moves to settle the affair at the European summit in Lisbon at the end of this month.

The prime minister is said to believe that he has "squashed" the government's problems over the Maastricht bill. Mr Major and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, remain convinced that the treaty made an important breakthrough towards ending the drive for centralising power in EC institutions.

Tory tempers, page 12
German demand, page 13
Peter Riddell, page 16

MFI flotation will net executives up to £35m

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

THE directors and senior managers of MFI, Britain's biggest furniture retailer, will receive shares and bonuses worth up to £35 million when the company is floated on the stock market in July.

MFI was the subject of what was at the time Britain's biggest management buyout in 1987. The buyout was financed with almost £500 million of borrowings.

One City analyst said the MFI directors had "been to hell and back" during the recession to keep the com-

pany financially healthy. The managers who participated in the buyout put £600,000 of their own money into the transaction and will own about 3 per cent of the company after the flotation, which is expected to value MFI at about £800 million. A quarter of the shares will be made available to the public.

The company, chaired by Derek Hunt, a former policeman, has 174 superstores throughout the UK.

Return to market, page 21

Dancing invalid sends US lawyers reeling

FROM CHARLES BREMNER
IN NEW YORK

SIX months after the trial of William Kennedy Smith, Moira Lasch, the key Palm Beach prosecutor, is back in the glare of the cameras, this time in the case of the dancing invalid.

With the exception of sex, the case embraces every one of America's favourite obsessions — money, doctors, lawyers and detectives. An immediate issue is whether William Lenahan, a retired police detective known to the media as Uncle Bill, the dancing invalid, faked brain damage to win a lawsuit against a surgeon.

In the broader sense, Mr Lenahan and his wife are joined in the dock by the army of lawyers and expert medical witnesses who make a fat living from malpractice suits against the American medical profession. Two years ago, Mr Lenahan, 67, brought a

jury in Boca Raton, Florida, to tears with his pitiful performance. He could not recall the month, the year, or the name of the president. Asked how many nickels made a dollar, he could only reply: "A whole bunch, I guess." He pizzled over how to put his arms through his coat-sleeves and when asked if he knew where he was raised his eyes to the ceiling and answered: "Church."

Half-a-dozen highly qualified medical experts, well paid for their time, vouched for Mr Lenahan's terrible mental impairment since he underwent a seemingly simple back operation for a ruptured disc. The jury had only one question: would \$2.5 million (£1.3 million) be enough recompense for his suffering at the hands of Douglas Martin, his neurosurgeon? The invalid's suit is now the subject of criminal action and general meritment because Dr Martin smelled a

rat and put a private detective on Mr Lenahan's tail. The gumshoe came back with a videotape of Mr Lenahan dancing a jig, sprinting upstairs and jogging behind his wife's Cadillac outside their new holiday house in the Florida Keys. He could also be observed decorating his yacht, for which he paid \$250,000.

The Palm Beach prosecutors arrested Mr Lenahan and his wife and charged them with fraud and handed the case to Ms Lasch, who now handles white-collar crime after being transferred from the sexual assault department from which she led the Kennedy case. The insurance company which paid the damages is suing Mr Lenahan's lawyer for the \$700,000 which he earned in fees from the award. However, Mr Lenahan and his family are not taking the case lying down. They told the jury earlier this week that he no longer

functioned as a father and husband, although he had moments of lucidity. Under questioning from Ms Lasch, Leighton Richmond, a brother-in-law, said: "Bill is a very frustrated person. He's aware he's lost something."

The big question, should the Lenahans be convicted, is how so many learned doctors got it wrong. "We were impressed by all those 45-dollar words," said one member of the award jury, alluding to the cost-per-word of expert testimony. Most of the plaintiff's experts are not commenting, though one neuropsychologist said he did not rule out a miracle. People had been known to recover suddenly from blindness and paralysis, he said. Ray Lopez, a Miami neurologist, testified that the video of the apparently fun-loving Mr Lenahan was not inconsistent with a "variable condition".

Green charter agreed at Rio

FROM MICHAEL MCCARTHY
AND ROBIN OAKLEY
IN RIO DE JANEIRO

A CHARTER for greening the world's economic growth was accepted unanimously yesterday by the 178 member states of the United Nations at the Earth summit in Rio de Janeiro.

While negotiations on new aid for the Third World and on conservation and management of forests dragged on, officials from all countries managed to agree to the conference's statement of 27 principles on its central objective of sustainable development, to be known as the Rio declaration.

Parts of the declaration had earlier been disputed, particularly its scanty reference to the problems of population growth — dealt with in four words — and its formal acceptance of the special responsibility the industrialised countries are said to bear to care for the world's environment, because of their pollution record and their riches.

A smaller but potentially sharper obstacle was the declaration's reference to "people under oppression, domination and occupation", to which Israel took strong objection. However, a deal was struck by the Americans on Israel's behalf yesterday, by which the reference will be removed from the summit's giant work programme, Agenda 21, while remaining in the declaration.

Although not legally binding, the Rio declaration is a considerable political commitment for Britain and every other country to merge environmental concern with economic decision making.

Britain is expected to announce a significant increase in aid for rainforest conservation and a stepped-up contribution to the Global Environment Fund in the closing stages of the Earth summit.

• **Panama City:** President Bush was hustled to safety from a platform here yesterday as riot police fired tear gas at hundreds of anti-American demonstrators, massed about 150 yards away behind barbed wire.

Mr Bush and President Endara were led away as hundreds of people choking from the gas, scattered from the Plaza Porras. (AP)

Aid obsession, page 15
Leading article, page 17

TODAY IN THE TIMES

THE BIG ILLUSION

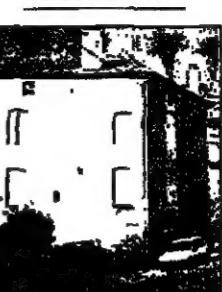


Valerie Grove looks at the myths of marriage and asks if our demands on it are impossibly high

Life & Times

Page 1

THE BIG BARGAIN



Fancy a house in the Dordogne, with oak floors and a wine cellar? A snip at £14,950

Life & Times

Page 5

THE BIG SLEEP



Jonathan Sale tells how a relaxing holiday led to long-term difficulty in staying awake

Life & Times

Page 7

Labour balloting enquiry demanded

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour party leadership was last night facing demands for an enquiry into allegations of ballot-rigging in shadow cabinet elections.

Westminster echoed to unsubstantiated rumours of deals involving Labour MPs handing their blank ballot papers to unnamed backroom fixers for them to fill in and help selected candidates.

Detectives from Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch and North Yorkshire police travelled to West Yorkshire last night to interview them. North Yorkshire police would only confirm that two men had been detained for questioning. One of the men was being held at Pontefract police station, the other at Normanton, about six miles away.

Shoppers in Pontefract reported intense police activity in the town centre shopping precinct during the afternoon and then saw two men spread-eagled at gunpoint in the market area. Several armed police officers were involved in what appeared to be a well-planned operation.

Pontefract is four miles from the wood near Burton Salmon in North Yorkshire where the gunman's burnt-out Ford Sierra car was found abandoned early on Sunday morning. Glenn Goodman, a newly appointed special constable with North Yorkshire police, had been fatally wounded less than 30 minutes earlier as he and a colleague checked suspicious car near Tadcaster.

And may the best rigged WIN...

Calm

For the first time in four years Saba is not pregnant.

She is no longer one of the hundred million women across the world without the family planning they want. The denial of this basic human right continues as the world population increases by 97 million people a year. This rapid rise is compounding the crisis of poverty and the environment in developing countries.

We're working for basic health care and quality family planning.
A PERSONAL FREEDOM:
A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

I enclose a donation to POPULATION CONCERN of £_____
Please tick for more information
Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Please return to: 223 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0AE
Telephone: 071-631 1546 Reg. Charity No. 1001690



Walk on part: a 200ft footbridge being hoisted into place over the Aire in Leeds yesterday. The £400,000 bridge is the city's first new river crossing for over a century

Fraud office wins appeal against right to silence

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE right of defendants to remain silent in the face of enquiries by Serious Fraud Office investigators was dealt a possibly fatal blow by a House of Lords ruling yesterday.

Five law lords unanimously allowed an appeal by the Serious Fraud Office which reaffirms the wide investigative powers of the office to compel people to answer questions, with the sanction of a fine or imprisonment for unreasonable refusal.

The ruling overturns a High Court ruling in November that once a person has been charged with an offence, he is entitled to the traditional right of silence and need not comply with the SFO's extensive questioning powers under the Criminal Justice Act 1987.

The lords' ruling may be challenged in the European Court of Human Rights. In the meantime it will undoubtedly strengthen the hand of the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, now looking

at the right to silence. The commission is expected to make inroads into the right to silence with a recommendation that the defence must disclose its case by a certain point before trial.

Lawyers condemned the ruling. Stephen Gilchrist, a criminal practitioner, said the ruling was "yet another notch down the road to erosion of the right to silence and a blow generally for civil libertarians". He said it was disturbing that the law lords took the view that the powers of the SFO took precedence over the protections for defendants enshrined in the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

Paul Phippen, of Mafarlanes, who also has experience of fraud cases, said the decision appeared an unhappy one. "The SFO powers are a very considerable invasion anyway into the right to silence and one might have expected that once charged, the normal right not to incriminate oneself would

come back into play." However, Charles Buckley, of Garstang, and solicitor to Wallace Smith, the company director who had brought the original case contesting the SFO's powers, said that the law lords' ruling left open the possibility of remaining silent. "We note that the lords have indicated the SFO may ask questions; they have not ruled on the circumstances in which a person may decline to answer those questions."

In November, the High Court rejected argument that the SFO's investigative powers overrode the normal right of those under investigation to remain silent. The case in which the issue was raised centred on Mr Smith, chairman and managing director of Wallace Smith Trust Company.

Lord Justice Mustill said yesterday that in April last year Mr Smith informed the Bank of England the company was in financial difficulty. Later the SFO informed him it intended to interview him and told him in a letter: "Unlike a police interview, you will not be given what is called a caution. Under the Criminal Justice Act 1987 you are obliged to answer truthfully questions put to you." He was told he could be prosecuted if he lied or refused to answer questions.

The High Court granted Mr Smith an order requiring a caution to be given — to the effect that he was not obliged to answer any questions relating to the charge brought against him — before he was called on to comply with the SFO notice seeking information.

Lord Justice Nolan said in the High Court there was nothing in the 1987 act to suggest that the SFO's power to investigate suspected serious or complex fraud allowed the exercise of that power without caution against a person whose affairs had already been investigated to the extent of a charge being laid against him. The situation would have been different had the SFO served its notice before Mr Smith had been charged.

Cash found, page 21

Maxwell pensions enquiry considered

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AN INDEPENDENT enquiry is being considered to determine whether the government is liable for compensation for the 32,000 pensioners affected by the Maxwell scandal, it emerged yesterday.

William Reid, the Parliamentary Ombudsman has written to Alf Morris, Labour MP for Manchester Wythenshawe suggesting that the pensioners submit, via an MP, any evidence they have of maladministration in the trade and industry department. Mr Reid points out that he cannot start an investigation unless he is given evidence of administrative fault on the part of the department complained about and that the complainant has suffered because of it. He spells out at least two areas where this could have happened in a move which appears to encourage the pensioners to pursue their case.

Mr Morris, who has several constituents who are Maxwell pensioners, has now written to Ken Trench, chairman of the pensioners group, enclosing a copy of the letter and suggesting that they gather the necessary evidence. He pointed out yesterday that an investigation by the Ombudsman following the Barlow Clowes affair led to £160m compensation.

It is understood the pensioners are already seeking legal advice to pinpoint areas where maladministration might have occurred.

The commissioner's letter says there have been complaints that regulations governing the powers of the trade and industry department do not protect pension members.

"I have no power to question the content of regulations. If however there were evidence that representations against the adequacy of what was proposed in the DTI and DTI had ignored them or brushed them aside, that might be a matter to which I could consider," he says.

Man who raped at knifepoint given 20 years

BY LIN JENKINS

A RAPIST who attacked his five victims at knifepoint within yards of his home was jailed for 20 years by the Old Bailey yesterday.

Judge Richard Lowry said that Edward Bartley had shown no remorse and he could see no hope for his future. "Everyone who has heard this case is appalled at the torment which each woman suffered at your hands. Everyone is conscious of the misery you inflicted, the degradation."

"Over a period of three and a half years, in some dark corner of your mind you conceived and carried out these terrible attacks. You must have been out walking the streets of Battersea watching for an opportunity with women who were alone and vulnerable."

Bartley attacked all his victims near his home in Battersea, southwest London. He always wore a mask, carried a knife and avoided talking to the women. Two had left the country after the attacks and all were psychologically scarred for life.

Bartley, 32, who denied the attacks, was convicted with the help of DNA genetic fingerprinting. The jury was told that the chance of his not being the rapist was 860 million to one.

Jewellery stolen from his victims was recovered and when police arrested him he was wearing a blazer from which one of his victims had ripped a button. She had kept the button, which Bartley had not replaced.

Bartley was convicted of three charges of rape, one of indecent assault, one of buggery and five charges of robbery. He carried out his first attack on a 25-year-old secretary in July 1987 as she walked to a friend's flat after locking herself out. He stole her jewellery, which was later recovered, and raped her. The court was told that the ordeal had left her so shattered she had emigrated to Canada.

Two years later he raped an 18-year-old receptionist who had been asleep waiting for her boyfriend in his car. Bartley held a knife at her

throat and raped her in the back of the car.

The third victim, a 25-year-old computer operator, found herself in a lift with him when she returned home from work late one night. He forced her past her flat and raped her in a stairwell. She ripped off his distinctive blazer button and still had it in her hand when she got home.

Genetic fingerprinting was in its infancy and it was only then that police realised they were looking for one man. Mandrill was launched.

Bartley struck twice more. He dragged a 24-year-old secretary into Battersea Park and assaulted her after her



Bartley: wore mask to attack five victims

boyfriend had stormed off during a row. He threatened the fifth victim, a Swedish student, with a knife as she made her way home from a night club. She fought and screamed and he eventually ran off after indecently assaulting her. She abandoned her studies and returned home after the attack.

Peter Cooper, prosecuting,

said that all the victims needed counselling and still suffered nightmares. One had been so distraught by what had happened that she kept it secret from her family. Her boyfriend believed that she had been the victim of a knifepoint robbery.

More than 900 men aged between 25 and 35 gave samples for DNA testing to help the police case against Bartley.

Families offered wriggling waste bins

BY DOUGLAS BROOM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CORRESPONDENT

A PLASTIC tub full of worms in the corner of your kitchen will not only help to save the planet but will save you pounds on your poll tax bill, according to a council in southwest London.

Sutton council is offering wormeries, plastic bins containing up to a thousand tiger worms, to selected residents to try to save up to £2 million a year on its waste disposal bill. The worms will eat all the organic waste of a family of four, except for meat and fish scraps. They produce compost and an odourless nutrient-rich liquid said to be ideal for feeding tomatoes.

Vip Patel, the council's environment officer, said that although the worms would live happily in the garden they were at their best in the warmth of a modern kitchen. "They like the same

temperatures we like," he said. Once inside their special home, converted from a standard kitchen bin with a filter layer and tap added, the 3in worms can eat their own body weight every 24 hours.

Tiger worms are natives of Britain and are being bred for the council at a farm in Devon. Their name derives from their distinctive stripes.

They have long been used by gardeners to help to compost waste and by anglers for bait, but they have never before been considered suitable members of a household. Waste disposal costs in London of more than £30 a tonne have prompted the move to bring them indoors.

It will take a family of four 12 to 24 weeks to fill the bin and the worms to gradually munch their way upwards through the vegetable matter. When they reach the top the householder is advised to scoop out the upper six inches

containing the worms, and to use the remaining composted material on their garden. The worms can then go back in the bin to start work again.

The liquid, chemically similar to proprietary garden fertiliser, collects more quickly, producing a watering can full every two to three weeks. Diluted in ten parts of water, the solution can be used on plants in and out of doors.

Sutton council has 1,000 of the wormeries to give away as part of a £400,000 experiment funded by the environment department to test ways of reducing the amount of household waste being dumped in landfill sites. If it succeeds similar methods could be adopted across the country.

Seven thousand residents of Carshalton Beeches in the Surrey commuter belt have been selected to participate in the project. In return for trying out the wormeries they will have their refuse measured to see if they have cut down.

ASADOUR GUZELIAN

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tube bomb scare delays commuters

Thousands of commuters were delayed last night as London Underground came to halt after a radio station received a call saying that bombs had been placed on the Underground. The security alert, following an explosion on Wednesday night near the House of Commons, closed several stations during the rush hour. Only a handful of trains were running. Offices near main stations were also evacuated.

Security has been tightened for the Trooping the Colour ceremony tomorrow. Scotland Yard yesterday reviewed arrangements for the ceremony which will be attended by leading members of the royal family, cabinet ministers, foreign diplomats and hundreds of spectators.

The bomb on Wednesday was a 2lb device which exploded just before midnight in a pedestrian precinct near the Army and Navy stores in Victoria. No one was injured in the blast which was heard in nearby New Scotland Yard and the Palace of Westminster.

Laura off respirator

Laura Davies, the four-year-old British girl who underwent a 16-hour liver and bowel transplant in the United States, was breathing without artificial help last night. Laura, from Eccles, Greater Manchester, was taken off a respirator at Pittsburgh Children's Hospital, Pennsylvania, which reported that her condition was still critical but had stabilised. Doctors were pleased with her progress but the next three days would be crucial, the hospital said. Staff would be "making sure her organs are functioning well, that she is not experiencing any respiratory distress, and that there are no signs of infection", a spokeswoman said. Laura's parents saw her briefly twice after the operation. They flew to Pittsburgh with their daughter on May 30 after well-wishers raised £350,000 to fund the trip and operation.

Princess in tears

The Princess of Wales was reduced to tears yesterday by the warmth of the welcome she was given outside a hospice on Merseyside. The Princess had unveiled a plaque opening the Ousecourt Hospice for cancer sufferers in Southport. Outside the hospice well-wishers had unfurled a banner saying "Diana, we love you". The princess shook hands with people in the crowd and then suddenly covered her face with her hands and wept. She climbed quickly into the official car and was driven away. It was her first official engagement since the publication of two controversial books about her marriage. The princess went on to the Ashworth special hospital near Liverpool and opened an extension at the police training centre in Liverpool.

Letters, page 17

Table makes £1.2m

A classic French 18th century writing table bought for £300,000 in 1981 sold for £1.2 million in an auction of continental furniture at Christie's in London yesterday. It belonged to Barbara Johnson, heiress to the Johnson & Johnson baby powder fortune, who bought the Badminton cabinet for a record £8.58 million in 1990. The writing table was part of a furniture collection formed by Margaret Baroness Nairne and Keith and her husband Comte de Flahaut in the early 19th century. The 164-lot auction made £5.676 million. Thirty-six lots were bought in and the auction was 82 per cent sold by value.

A Fabergé Easter egg commissioned by the ill-fated Tsar Nicholas II for his wife made £1.7 million at Sotheby's in New York, a new saleroom record.

Banker loses job fight

A Lloyds bank manager who was demoted after taking out a loan from a rival bank for one of his customers lost his claim for unfair dismissal at an industrial tribunal in Birmingham yesterday (Craig Seton writes). Peter Harrison, 41, manager of Lloyds Bank in West Bromwich, West Midlands, borrowed £25,000 from the TSB to give to a local company, Vision Posters, after his superiors had refused the company's request for a loan. Mr Harrison was demoted for breaking bank rules and took his case to the tribunal, claiming constructive dismissal. Rejecting the claim yesterday David Pugsley, chairman of the tribunal, said: "There is no way in which we can order any compensation because the applicant was completely and utterly to blame."

Blaze closes station

At least 30 cars belonging to commuters were badly damaged last night when a fierce fire swept through buildings alongside Three Bridges station in West Sussex. The blaze was so fierce that many cars parked nearby were destroyed or damaged. Firemen's efforts to put out the flames were hindered by dangerous fumes given off by toxic chemicals stored in one of the buildings. Police closed the station and ordered all passengers to leave. Train drivers were told not to stop at Three Bridges. Police believe that the fire, which spread from a workman's hut, had been started deliberately, though investigations had yet to be opened. The station is on the main Network SouthEast Brighton to Gatwick line.

Miners expel MP

Kevin Barron, Labour's coal spokesman and a former miner, was expelled from the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday for breaching confidences after the Lightman enquiry. In 1990 a four-man union team was set up to investigate the NUM's finances and commissioned a report from Gavin Lightman, QC. He was sued by the union for publishing his report as a paperback book. In October 1990 a union conference accepted the findings of the four-man team, but it was agreed that action should be taken against Mr Barron for passing information about the decision to Mr Lightman.

Sentence is increased

The Court of Appeal yesterday replaced a killer's two-year probation order with two years' youth custody. The order imposed on Desmond Brown, a trainee surveyor, by Judge Lyberty, Common Sergeant of London, had been challenged by the attorney-general. The teenager had been found guilty of the manslaughter, by stabbing, of Christopher Barrell, 21, a former soldier, in a confrontation at Chadwell Heath, Essex, but the jury had asked for mercy.

Chess leaders

As the world chess Olympics in Manila move into the third and fourth rounds the heavyweight teams are starting to clash (Raymond Keene writes). In the third round England drew 3-3 with Estonia while in the fourth round it administered a shattering 3-1 defeat on Slovenia. After four rounds the top-seeded Russian team leads with 13 points out of a possible 16 followed by England, Latvia and Uzbekistan on 12. Today is a rest day.

SINGER IRONING PRESSES ARE JUST Magic!

Singer call them Magic Presses with good reason, with a presser bar nearly ten times that of a conventional iron they can make a pile of ironing disappear - Cast Presses is kind to fabrics and helps garments keep their shape, and you can use the press while sitting hot.

IRONING TIME STEAM OR DRY IRON OFF SAFETY FEATURE

TEMPERATURE CONTROL HIGH PRESSURE AREA IRON TO CLOTHES

MECHANICAL HIGH PRESSURE IRONING PRESSING OPTION

£249.95 SINGER MAGIC PRESS 7 STEAM OR DRY IRONING PRESS RRP £399.95

£249.95 SINGER MAGIC PRESS 4 DRY IRONING PRESS RRP £399.95

Available from your local Singer Stockist or Tel: 0833 708471 for your nearest stockist

Harrods
KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Harrods Ltd., Knightsbridge, SW1X 7XL. Tel: 071-730 1234.

French leaders applaud the Queen of regal chic

M Lang wore turquoise; M Mitterrand was in grey. Alan Hamilton reports on a colourful state visit

AS THE royal party entered the Musée d'Orsay on the third day of the Queen's state visit to France yesterday, observers gasped at the suit, an unmistakably French number by the fashionable couturier Thierry Mugler. Speculation raged over its precise shade: was it turquoise, pistachio or duck-egg blue? And should it really be worn with gingham?

Inside the suit was not the Queen, but her host for the day, France's pixie-like minister of culture, education and power-dressing, Jack Lang, who is 52 but attempts to be 22. M Lang's wardrobe, frequently paraded in the National Assembly, also includes suits of prune and forest green, worn with a billowing silk handkerchief at the breast pocket. Some have Mao collars, others dispense with lapels.

M Lang's far-out dresses the President of the Republic, who favours shapeless grey flannel, and Jacques Chirac, the Mayor of Paris, who tends towards the English pin-stripe. Yesterday's outfit was one of his quieter numbers, described by a woman reporter from *Le Figaro* as "Très Proustien: he reminds me of the Comte de Charlus in *A la Recherche du Temps Perdu*". Dorian Gray would appear to be the nearest English literary equivalent.

The Quai d'Orsay does not issue official descriptions of ministerial clothes, but couture is one of the few areas in which Buckingham Palace is happy to make formal statements. Yesterday's communiqué

nique spoke of a pink wool loose coat with stitched detail, worn over a dress of pink and beige silk print and a large grey straw hat trimmed with pink.

Debate became heated among observers most of them ill-schooled in couture, on the precise shade of pink: strawberry, raspberry, petunia, blush or ice-cream. M Lang came immediately to the rescue. "Rose Buvard," he declared unequivocally.

The French have a rose named after blotting-paper. "Her outfit is wonderful; so finely made," he enthused.

Whatever the exact shade of pink, the colour was perfect for a visit to what is now France's leading museum of late 19th century art, with its superb collection of Impressionists from Monet and Manet to Van Gogh. As a former railway station, it is an inspired art gallery.

Yesterday was M Lang's day. He is one of the most powerful ministers in government, controlling a culture budget that would make our own minister of fun and discreet dressing positively apple-green colour, bottle green or pea-green with envy. He is also a man never known to miss a photo opportunity or a chance to stand in front of a television camera. Other political figures have been exceedingly anxious to be associated with what is proving a highly successful state visit, with the Queen delivering all her public speeches in French and reiterating John Major's commitment to Europe after the stand-offishness of



Dressing down: Jack Lang escorts the Queen as she inspects a reclining nude statue at the Orsay museum in Paris yesterday

the Thatcher years. M Mitterrand, facing declining popularity at home after 11 years in office, has directed that the Queen be accorded the highest possible level of hospitality, and has been present at an unusual number of her engagements. He has even turned up when not

expected, lest others steal the limelight.

On Wednesday, as the Queen was being conducted around Paris by M Chirac, the city's mayor and M Mitterrand's implacable political opponent, the president arrived unexpectedly as the royal party were tour-

ing a Henry Moore exhibition in the Bagatelle Gardens, and each man seemed to vie with the other to be the closer to their visitor, gesticulating and explaining to the Queen while eyeing each other warily.

After their tour of the Musée d'Orsay yesterday, M Lang

took the Queen on board France's high-speed train, the TGV, for a 190mph journey to Blois, the medieval fortress town which has M Lang as its mayor.

M Lang did, however, suffer one small misfortune yesterday: as he and his royal guest left their last engage-

ment in Paris, a large crowd

applauded the Queen and shouted: "Vive la reine."

Then proceeded to boo their culture minister. Perhaps, of course, they just didn't like his suit. By the time he appeared in Blois he had changed into a discreet grey number.

By MATTHEW D'ANCONA
EDUCATION REPORTER

BRITAIN has yet to confront the educational implications of the European single market and must quickly catch up with other member states, according to a report published today.

The Overseas Students Trust says in its paper that Britain risks serious handicaps in the business and cultural environment of "post-Maastricht Europe", which will re-create the medieval ideal of a cross-continental educational culture.

Echoing calls by the National Association of Head Teachers a fortnight ago, the trust urges schools to teach foreign languages from as early an age as possible and to encourage a practical rather than strictly literary approach to linguistic skills.

Sir Kenneth Berrill, chairman of the steering group that produced the report, said: "We are typically uncomfortable in any European language except our own. If you are Dutch or Belgian, you have to learn a competence before you leave school and you have to keep it up," he said. "That is a tremendous handicap and we shall slide."

Sir Albert Sloman, chairman of the trust's seminars, said that radical changes in the pre-university curriculum were necessary. "So radical that it encourages people to specialise in a science and a language. In higher education there will have to be many more courses which combine study of a subject with the study of a language."

Children died in fire started by babysitter

By CRAIG SETON

A BABYSITTER who was praised for her courage in trying to rescue two children from a fire was given two life sentences at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday for causing their deaths.

The court was told that June Leaning, 50, had a compulsive fascination for lighting fires and had started the blaze in which Simon Graham, five, and his sister Lucy, two, died from asphyxiation as they slept at their home in Barton, South Humberside, in May 1989. She later told local newspapers that she had tried to get through smoke to save them.

Leaning admitted two charges of manslaughter and five charges of arson between February 1988 and July 1991. The court was told that she was excited by the sound of fire engines arriving and was responsible for starting other fires on the estate where she lived and was a regular babysitter for neighbours.

David Farren, QC, for the prosecution, said that Leaning, a married woman with children, deliberately left a cigarette burning in the airing cupboard of the Grahams' house while babysitting. "She saw the flames rising and she closed the door, with the fire burning and the children asleep in a nearby bedroom." Leaning went downstairs to watch television. The court was told that Leaning, who lived in the same road as the Grahams,



Leaning: left cigarette burning in cupboard

left a lighted cigarette by a settee cushion of another house as she babysat for three children. She called her husband over and "discovered" the fire before putting it out.

Later, while babysitting for a boy at her own home, she entered his parents' house and started a fire. The following year she started another fire at her husband's parents' home, causing £7,000 of damage.

Leaning was caught after neighbours became suspicious when she was seen trying to start a fire in the porch of a house on the estate in July last year. Mr Farren said that Leaning was of limited intelligence and mentally ill. There was evidence that she had a grudge against the Graham family. He added: "It is only good fortune that there were only two victims. Leaning is a very dangerous woman."

Passing sentence on Leaning, who wept in the dock, Mr Justice Judge said she had caused unimaginable suffering to the parents of the dead children. He added: "No-one knows whether your condition will improve so that you can safely be released."

Graham Buchanan, defending, said: "She is suffering from an illness, a sickness, in respect of which there appears to be no medical treatment."

Linda Graham, 23, and her husband Neil, 26, the parents of the dead children, were in court for the hearing.

A GANG that raped two women in the back of a white transit van after ambushing their car on a road near Whipsnade Zoo in Bedfordshire on Tuesday may have tried to strike again.

Police are investigating a report from another motorist who told them that a white van flashed its headlights behind her on the M1 and signalled to her to pull over. The woman, who was with a female companion on Wednesday night, did not stop and told police after hearing of the earlier incident.

Detective Sergeant Trevor Bates, of Dunstable police, said: "It may be that it is totally unconnected but it is not dissimilar to the incident at Whipsnade." A big police operation was launched on Wednesday after police were contacted by a GP who had treated one of the victims.

The two mothers, aged 32 and 37, from Luton, were ambushed in daylight while on a shopping trip and raped in the van in an access road to the zoo. They had pulled in after being flagged down by the three men who told them there was something wrong with their exhaust.

Sgt Bates said that although police had interviewed one victim, the other had so far chosen not to come forward. The van's registration number may include H and B. It has one passenger seat instead of the normal double seat.

STOP PRESS FRANCE - WITH THE TIMES AND LBC

Last Minute Booking Bargains

Each week throughout the summer, *The Times* and LBC will bring you news of last minute bargains available for travellers to France. The latest information on bookings, flights, traffic delays and holiday ideas.

Express to Paris including meals, two nights and breakfast at the Ambassador Hotel in Paris and club class air travel from Paris to London on Tuesday.

Paris Travel Service has a Concorde offer for £385 per person. This includes an economy class flight from Manchester to Paris on June 26, two nights in a three star hotel and a return flight on June 28.

BA says that flights to Bordeaux, Marseilles and Toulouse are almost fully booked but there are seats to Paris, Lyons and Nice.

Air France has seats this weekend on flights to Paris

from Heathrow and London City.

FERRIES

P&O European Ferries recommends travellers to make reservations for all morning and afternoon sailings this weekend.

Hoverspeed is offering a £49 day return fare for a car and four passengers between Folkestone and Boulogne until June 25.

RATES

Travelex says that the franc is expected to continue falling, and advises travellers to exchange currency sooner rather than later. Exchange rates are between 10.35 and 10.38 when selling and 9.47 and 9.5 when buying.

Shona Crawford Poole, *The Times* travel editor, will be interviewed by Angela Rippon on her *DriveTime* programme next Thursday 18 June at 6.50pm, LBC NEWS 97.3FM.

Intend cordiale
L&T section, page 5

Britain still lags in languages

By MATTHEW D'ANCONA
EDUCATION REPORTER

BRITAIN has yet to confront the educational implications of the European single market and must quickly catch up with other member states, according to a report published today.

The Overseas Students Trust says in its paper that Britain risks serious handicaps in the business and cultural environment of "post-Maastricht Europe", which will re-create the medieval ideal of a cross-continental educational culture.

Echoing calls by the National Association of Head Teachers a fortnight ago, the trust urges schools to teach foreign languages from as early an age as possible and to encourage a practical rather than strictly literary approach to linguistic skills.

Sir Kenneth Berrill, chairman of the steering group that produced the report, said: "We are typically uncomfortable in any European language except our own. If you are Dutch or Belgian, you have to learn a competence before you leave school and you have to keep it up," he said. "That is a tremendous handicap and we shall slide."

Sir Albert Sloman, chairman of the trust's seminars, said that radical changes in the pre-university curriculum were necessary. "So radical that it encourages people to specialise in a science and a language. In higher education there will have to be many more courses which combine study of a subject with the study of a language."

DISCOUNT VOUCHER

Currys

SAVE UP TO £50

FOR 2 DAYS ONLY!
HURRY - LIMITED STOCKS. OFFERS MUST END 13TH JUNE

SAVE £20 PLUS
0% INTEREST
WITH VOUCHER

Get this fantastic
Miranda Pro
Video 1 Tripod
(In-store Price £50)
absolutely FREE
when you buy any
camcorder from Currys
with this voucher.
*Excludes Sanyo VMD66

SAVE £30 WITH VOUCHER

CHINON VHS-C Autofocus Camcorder
• 6x power zoom, High speed shutter
• Long play feature. Model 1500.
In-store Price £479.99
£449.99 VOUCHER PRICE
20% DEPOSIT & DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £60

SAVE £50 WITH VOUCHER

CANON 8mm Remote Control Camcorder
• 10x power zoom
• High speed shutter
• Detachable video light
• Title superimposer
Model E230.
In-store Price £599.99
£549.99 VOUCHER PRICE

Easy Ways to Pay
With a Currys Budget Card you can buy today and plan payments sensibly. Subject to acceptance and 5% deposit. Available only to applicants aged 18 or over. Subject to status.

TYPICAL APR 32.9% (variable)
0% interest on many items. Direct debit only.
We welcome Access, Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Diners Club.

Currys
You'll like the difference

HIGH ST. STORES NATIONWIDE PLUS 120 SUPERSTORES WITH LATE OPENING. 01902 200 (020) FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE.

*Written guarantees from Currys. Dept MC, 5455 High St, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 7EG. Currys are licensed credit brokers. Other terms apply in Yorkshires, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight. Ask in store for details.

Prince urges GPs to show human touch

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE Prince of Wales called last night for a reaffirmation of traditional values in medicine and a recognition of the importance of the generalist in a world dominated by specialists.

Modern medicine was in danger of overlooking the needs of the patient in its rush to diagnose his disease, the prince told doctors meeting in London. The general practitioner was all that stood between the patient and the experts eager to be let loose on him. "How threatening and inhuman it would be if the individual who is sick had no one who knew him or her first and foremost as a person, and who was able to act as a guide and broker to the specialisms of medicine," he said.

In a speech which has been six months in preparation, the prince said that medicine had shown a "very strong tendency to specialisation" and that doctors had become "more and more expert in narrower and narrower fields." General practitioners provided an essential counterbalance and their role needed to be further developed. The prince was delivering the inaugural John Hunt lecture to the Royal College of General Practitioners, of which he is this year's president.

But there were also fundamental principles that were under threat and needed to be preserved, he said. The

doctor-patient relationship was pivotal: "Patients value every minute you give them." But there was a "real danger that narrowly political considerations, conflicting commercial pressures and a sense of living in a state of flux, may eclipse the GP's understanding of his or her own role."

As an example he cited the move among GPs to end their 24-hour commitment. "I would like to ask you to consider that view. Does it not say something important about general practice?" Suggesting the burden could be shared, rather than removed altogether, he said: "Public confidence in the role of the GP has been won through good old-fashioned commitment, humanity, integrity and lack of greed. Without these qualities, general practice would not have retained the affectionate respect that it still holds."

The prince said that there was a need for experimentation with other models of care in order to improve services to the homeless, commuters and the temporarily resident who were not registered with GPs, he said. But there was alimony to what doctors could do. Quoting Voltaire he said the art of medicine consists of amusing the patient while nature cures the disease.

Leading article, page 17
Health, L&T section, page 7



Fighting back: Esther Rantzen, presenter of *That's Life*, speaking at the launch of Britain's first national anti-bullying helpline, in front of a picture of the late Mark Perry, a victim of bullying. Beside her is the columnist Nina Myklow who spoke about being bullied as a child. A million children a year suffer from bully-

ing, helpline organisers say. Miss Rantzen said: "The line will offer practical advice for children and families... We hope schools will outlaw bullying — so that children understand it is not to be tolerated." The line will be open all weekend and then from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday on 071-378 1446/7/8/9.

20%

OFF EVERYTHING*

AT B&Q

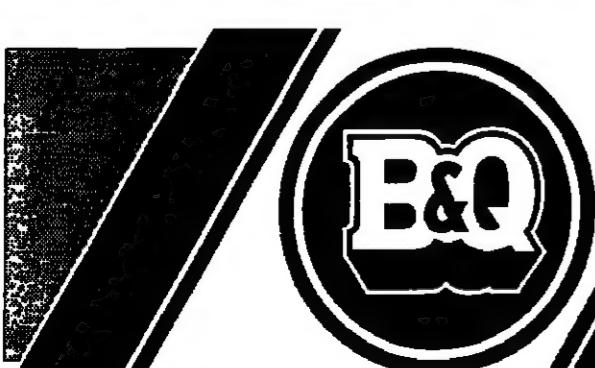
WHILE STOCKS LAST.

***EXCLUDING LAWNMOWERS**

20% OFF PERSONAL SHOPPERS ONLY

EXTENDED UNTIL
8PM MONDAY 15TH JUNE
BY POPULAR DEMAND

* 20% off marked prices offer excludes lawnmowers, the purchase of gift vouchers and the use of discount cards and coupons.
Over 80% of products at B&Q have been at the marked price for at least 20 days before 29th May.



Scientists ready to strike over pay demand

British scientists want salaries to match those of European colleagues working on the same project. Nigel Hawkes reports

tories all over the country, staff complain of a shortage of money and a lack of a secure career structure.

The pressure group Save British Science believes that the appointment of William Waldegrave as science minister has changed the atmosphere for the better, but in circumstances where public spending is stretched to the limit he will be hard-pressed to meet their demands. Last year the group called for an immediate infusion of £1 billion for repair and replacement, plus another \$400 million a year to correct what it sees as a deficit built up during the 1980s.

Barring miracles, Mr Waldegrave will not be able to meet these demands and has begun by concentrating on the structure rather than the financing of British science. He has promised to deliver a new plan by the spring of next year. There have been hints that some of the elaborate committee structure built up over the years might be pruned, with one option being the abolition of the Advisory Committee on the Research Councils.

Although money is the main grievance, the British staff are also anxious about job security in the authority, which has shrunk from 14,000 employees to 9,000 in the past three years. Jeremy Goff, secretary of the local section of the Institution of Professionals, Managers and Scientists, says that staff employed by Euratom are being treated more sympathetically than those who work for the authority.

The management has rejected the scientists' pay claim, pointing out that they earn a 15 per cent bonus for working at Jet. The authority said that for senior people, this "experience allowance" is worth £6,000 a year, simply for working on the other side of the fence dividing the Jet laboratory from the authority's Harwell laboratory.

The management says that the scientists should wait until the end of the summer, when the EC commissioner Filippo Pandolfi is expected to complete an enquiry into the pay and conditions of EC research workers. The scientists, however, are prepared to wait no longer. After tomorrow's walk-out they plan further strikes, with the next likely to coincide with a meeting of the Jet council at Culham next week.

Although the Jet dispute has unusual features, it is part of a wider malaise affecting the careers of British research workers. In labora-



Waldegrave: reforming the finance of science

Death in car window an accident

BY NICHOLAS WATT

LUCINDA Richardson, aged 2, who choked to death after trapping her head in an electric window of her family's car, died accidentally, a coroner said yesterday.

Michael Burgess, the Surrey coroner, said Lucinda's death was a sad and tragic case which had implications for electric car windows. "I am quite satisfied from the evidence I have had that her death was accidental." A report has been sent to the transport department.

Lucinda's father, Douglas, told the inquest in Chertsey that he found his daughter trapped in the window of the front passenger seat of the family's Fiat Tipo.

Police Constable John Bridger, a police vehicle examiner who tested the Fiat's window, said that the car's manual could be misleading as it might give the impression that the windows could not be operated after removing the ignition key. In fact the front windows could be activated if one of the car doors was open. He said the car was not fitted with a pressure sensor which would have stopped the window.

It was impossible to know whether Lucinda closed the window accidentally or deliberately, the inquest was told. After the hearing, Mr Richardson appealed to car manufacturers to introduce safety equipment to prevent a similar accident.

Crash man says he was fit to drive

A LORRY driver accused of killing six people after ploughing into a line of stationary motorway traffic said yesterday that he did not think he was unsafe to drive.

Vincent Parsons, 26, drove into the traffic jam on the slip road of junction six on the M42, it has been claimed.

The prosecution said he did not even take his foot off the accelerator or swerve before he hit the traffic at 65 mph.

Mr Parsons, of Newport, Gwent, denies six charges of causing death by reckless driving on November 6, 1990. He told Birmingham Crown Court: "Between junction five and six I was thinking about where I was going and what the time was.

I was wondering if I would get away from the next drop before dinner. If I had seen any hold-ups I would have taken a different route. I was never conscious of being unfit to drive."

When asked by Richard Wakeman, QC, for the defence, if he felt sleepy or drowsy during the journey, he replied: "No." The court has been told that Mr Parsons had no recollection of any signs warning of roadworks on the slip road or of any stationary traffic.

"My last recollection is looking at my tachograph directly in front of me. Then I just remember being on the floor and the diesel tank was alongside the lorry on the left hand side."

The trial continues today.

Don't leave the planet to the politicians

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

GIVE £10 to Friends of the Earth - Phone 0272 244700 NOW

The app
But
a m

ready
over
land

comes to match
the working in
lawkes reports

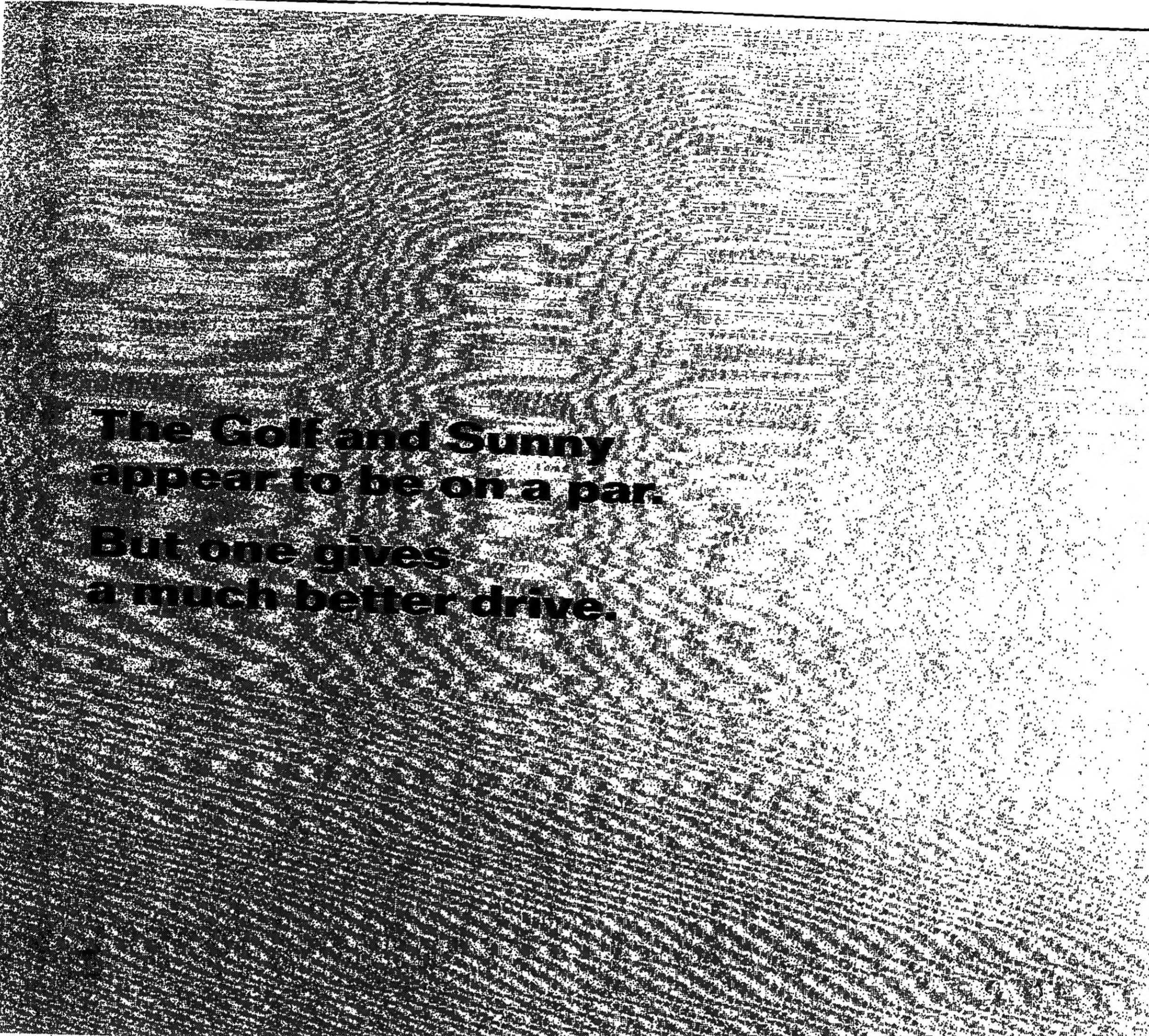
all over the country in a single
area and a lack of
centralisation.
The same group is
now too large to
be effective. It is
now spread out
across the country where
driving is restricted
to small groups.
The new demands
of the group, called
for more money and less
time in service, are
not being met.

There will be
more demands
from the members
as they return
from their holidays.
It has promised
to meet them
but it is not clear
whether it can
keep its promise.
The group is
now split up into
smaller groups
around the area
of the Assembly
regions in the hope
of more selling.

Crash may
ays he wa
fit to driv

in the last few days
there have been
several accidents
involving cars and
motorcycles. One
accident involved
a car and a motorcycle
on a road in the
area. The driver of
the car was killed
and the motorcycle
was seriously injured.
The accident
occurred on a
busy road in the
area. The driver
of the car was
driving at a
high speed and
lost control of
the vehicle. The
motorcycle was
hit by the car
and the driver
was killed on
impact. The
motorcycle
was also
damaged in
the accident.

the plant
liticians
ds of the Earth
44700 NOV



The Golf and Sunny appear to be on a par. But one gives a much better drive.

MODEL	SUNNY 1.4 L THREE-DOOR	GOLF 1.4 GL THREE-DOOR
16-valve engine	✓	✗
5-speed gearbox*	✓	✗
3 year/80,000 mile manufacturer's warranty	✓	✗
BHP	80	60
0-62 mph	12.5 secs	16.3 secs
Price†	£8,310	£9,324



Take a look at a new Sunny and a new Golf and you'll find similar levels of specification. For instance, both have a stereo radio/cassette and a catalyst equipped engine. But, here, the similarities end. Take them both out for a spin and you'll find that the Sunny is the driver's car. Because like all Sunnys, it has a 16-valve engine (something you'll only find at the top of the Golf range), intelligent self-adjusting shock absorbers and a five-speed gearbox. And coming in at £1,014 less than the Golf, the Sunny is more within your driving range. For a limited period there are some exceptional low-rate finance packages available, your local Nissan Authorised Dealer has all the details, for his address telephone 0800 777 200.

NISSAN



*5-speed gearbox available as an option on Golf - cost £184. †Prices correct at time of going to press.

Prices exclude delivery packages and road fund licence. Nissan delivery package costs £275 and comprises delivery to dealer, number plates and full tank of petrol. VW delivery package costs £395 and comprises delivery to dealer and number plates.



Going places: a Parisian plans his Metro route

Paris overtakes London as model for public transport

LONDON has lost its position as the model of public transport provision for cities all over the world to its arch rival Paris, according to the first comprehensive comparison of transport in London and Paris published today.

Armed with effective regional planning structures, generous levels of central government funding and a vision of what is needed to meet the challenges of the 21st century, Paris is setting the pace in modern urban transport planning while London is facing an uncertain future, the report said.

Fares in London are between two and three times higher than those for equivalent journeys on public transport in Paris because of the government's determination to reduce public subsidies while transferring running costs from the taxpayer to the user.

During the past 25 years Paris has built 30km of new Metro track, 107km of suburban and cross-city main lines and 500km of motorways. London, by contrast, has trailed behind with 28km of new Underground

lines, 5km of main lines, and about 250km of new motorways, most of which is accounted for by the M25, London's orbital motorway, the report said.

Moreover, Paris has committed itself to a series of ambitious transport infrastructure schemes, including improved suburb-to-suburb connections, new rail links for direct connections to nearby regions and a network of underground motorways.

Although there are plans to extend London's public transport network with the proposed East-West Cross-rail and the Chelsea-Hackney line, neither is well advanced, while the planned extension of the Jubilee line between Green Park and Stratford via Docklands has been placed in limbo following the decision by Olympia & York, the developer of the Canary Wharf office complex and co-sponsor of the Jubilee line extension, to seek

protection from its creditors. The report, *London-Paris: A Comparison of Transport Systems*, provides a detailed comparison of transport provision in the two cities confirming the widely held suspicion that Paris has the edge. "Rail transport in Paris offers a service which is clearly superior to that of London," the report said.

In the central area, for example, the Paris Metro has 196km of track, compared to 124km on the London Underground. In addition, with an average of 500m between stations in Paris, compared with 800m in London, Paris has twice as many stations as London. Paris offers a far more efficient service in the central area, although London provides a superior service in the suburbs.

The report, which was compiled by the London Research Council, a body established in 1987 by the 33 London boroughs following

London-Paris: A Comparison of Transport Systems. (Stationery Office: £23.99)



Flaked out: disrepair on London Underground

SHE'D BEEN DRIVING ALONE.

HER FAN BELT HAD SNAPPED.

HOW DID SHE GET HOME

WITHOUT GETTING OUT OF HER CAR?

You never know when or where you are going to break down.

It could be in the High Street. Or it could be in the middle of nowhere.

But wherever it happens, it's always an unpleasant experience, particularly if it's dark. Which is exactly why the AA has developed Callsafe.

You only ever need to press a few buttons to summon help. Either you can get in touch with the AA, or if necessary the emergency services. All without leaving the security of your own car.

Which means no more wandering about looking for a pay phone. A comforting thought for any woman driving alone.

The AA is the first motoring organisation to offer this service to its members and we have

designed it around the latest user-friendly technology. It simply plugs into the car's cigarette lighter, or there's an optional battery pack.

You can speak to us, and if need be, we can call you back. And because all calls are free, it's absolutely impossible to run up any hefty bills.

We've also made AA Callsafe completely portable, so it can be used in different vehicles by different members of your family (as long as they are covered by your membership).

Which means you and your family always know that wherever you break down, you're only ever the press of a button away from either the emergency services or a very nice man.



All you pay is an initial fee and a fixed quarterly subscription (which adds up to a lot less than the cost of a normal car phone).

For further information about AA Callsafe visit your nearest AA shop, phone 0345 500 630 between 7am and 7pm (at the local call rate), or fill out and send us the coupon below.

To: The Automobile Association, FREEPOST (B247), Basildon, Essex, SS12 9ER.
Name: _____
Address: _____

Daytime Tel. No: _____ Evening Tel. No: _____
AA Membership No: _____
AA Callsafe
We're all you need to know.



AA Callsafe operates through the Vodafone network.

EC offers to help pay for new motorways

FROM TOM WALKER
IN BRUSSELS

Violinist went too far on TV

The violinist Nigel Kennedy went too far when he seemed about to undo his trouser flies in front of millions of young TV viewers, the Broadcasting Standards Council said yesterday.

The musician told children that he had lost his underpants, invited the audience to send him some, and "appeared about to open his trousers", the council said. The episode went out on BBC1's Saturday morning children's show, *Going Live*, on March 14.

The BBC said it would have censored the gesture if the show had been pre-recorded. The council upheld a complaint made by a man from Suffolk.

Husband jailed

A jealous husband who hacked his estranged wife to death with a meat cleaver in front of her new boy friend was jailed for life by Inner London Crown Court. Galaxy Medea, 31, who attacked his wife as she held their four-month-old baby at their home in Thamesmead, southeast London, was convicted of murder after a plea of manslaughter was rejected.

Train kills cows

Twelve cows were killed by a train when a herd strayed onto the London to Exeter line near Sherborne, Dorset. The 3.45pm Southampton to Yeovil train, with no passengers on board, was slightly damaged and the line was blocked for five hours.

Death leap fails

A man who jumped 100ft from the Humber Bridge was rescued by the crew of a passing boat after he was spotted by a waterskiier looking for his ski. The unnamed man was seriously injured. Last night he was in a poor condition at Hull Royal Infirmary.

Coronation stone stands its ground

BY DAVID YOUNG

AN ANCIENT stone that is said to have been part of a coronation throne used by seven English Saxon kings and to have given the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames its name, is to stay on its traditional site.

The council has abandoned a plan, passed by the chairman's casting vote, to move the Coronation Stone, a weathered slab of sandstone, from its site outside the Guild Hall at Kingston.

The council had intended to move the stone 500 yards to the parish churchyard, where it was due to be unveiled and rededicated during a visit to the town by the Queen on July 29. However, the church authorities have ruled that church law forbids graveyard structures not directly related to the deceased.

The decision, which has been accepted by the council, ends several months of

controversy, with local historians and residents opposing the move. Many people had feared that shifting the anonymous grey block and its octagonal plinth would have exposed it to vandalism. In its present position, it is overlooked not only by the council offices, but by Kingston police station.

Although some people claim that the Coronation Stone was nothing more than a leg-up for Kingstonian horse riders, popular tradition has it that the stone formed part of a coronation seat used to crown seven Saxon kings, starting with Alfred the Great's son, Edward the Elder, in 900. It may also have given Kingston its name.

The Queen's visit will go ahead, but the rededication ceremony has been cancelled. The Queen will officially open a shopping complex.

Imbert tells police to put integrity above success

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE officers must be prepared to lose cases and see criminals escape punishment rather than compromise their integrity, Sir Peter Imbert, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, said yesterday. He told a national conference, attended by many of the country's chief constables, that the time had come for the police "to stop being as if it is our role to prop up an inefficient legal system. In a word we must be prepared to lose cases."

Addressing the joint summer conference of the Association of Chief Police Officers and police authorities in Eastbourne, East Sussex, he said:

"I would far sooner see a hundred guilty people walk free than see one officer compromise his position and that of the service by interfering with evidence." The police could not continue to protest that many of the recent cases of miscarriages of justice concerned events that took place nearly 20 years ago and were the product of a different period of history. The police had to learn the lessons and move on.

Sir Peter said that the problems with police malpractice and attempts to get convictions by bending the rules did not apply only to recent well-publicised cases. There were instances not only of injustice but also of intransigence, rudeness or unfilled expectations suffered by members of the public. His force was

training officers to investigate more thoroughly and objectively and to provide a better overall service.

Sir Peter said that a Gallup poll in September showed that 77 per cent of the people asked about their attitude towards a number of national institutions had confidence in the police, a drop of 9 percentage points from 1981. Other institutions were rated much lower. The press, who were "our regular judge and jury", had dropped over the decade to 14 per cent.

Earlier this week Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, had told the conference that the police had to do more to reassure the law-abiding public. Yesterday Michael Hirst, chief constable of Leicester and a leading campaigner for change in the police service, had said there was evidence that the decline in public confidence had stabilised. Three Home Office surveys last August, November and February showed that satisfaction with the police by people who had come into contact with them dropped from 75 per cent last autumn to 71 per cent and rose again to 74 per cent in February.

Mr Hirst said that the alternative to a greater responsiveness to the public was a Los Angeles type of policing based on high technology, military discipline and insensitivity.

Private security companies could take over traffic policing, David Fletcher, head of a security industry association, told the conference.

Contractors equipped with technology such as closed circuit television cameras could free the police for other work and defuse some of their tensions with the public, he said.

The police had already given up control of some traffic warden systems and contracted out wheel-clamping. Contractors could escort heavy loads on roads or enforce firearms licensing, Mr Fletcher said. The security industry was not hampered by the bureaucracy found in public policing, although he accepted that too many buyers were concerned with price and not service.

David Owen, chief constable of North Wales and an authority on the private security industry, said that suggestions of privatising traffic work oversimplified what was involved. The security industry needed proper government regulation. Could it be allowed access to sensitive information such as criminal records?

Pools win splits family

ALF and Kathleen Potts were told by a judge yesterday to give half of their £103,000 pools win to Alf's brother Bill — plus interest of almost £17,000.

For 30 years Bill Potts, 60, and Alf, 58, fished in separate coupons always agreeing that if either won they would go halves. But when Alf and Kathleen won in 1987 they refused to hand over half the winnings. Hull County Court was told.

The dispute continued for five years. When the couple met to discuss the money at a public house, Kathleen and Alf offered Bill and Margaret Potts £25,000.

Bill and Margaret, of Bilton, said that they should receive half, but Kathleen said that she had filled in the coupon so the agreement did not apply. Margaret disputed her claim and said that during the argument in the pub Alf had admitted that he had filled in the coupon. He then told his brother and sister-in-law that they would not get a penny, the court was told.

Aff Potts, of Hull, denied filling in the coupon. He said that the couple was in his wife's name and did not come under the agreement. He said that the offer of the £25,000 was meant as a gift.

The court was told that the couple had divided other prizes of £170 and one of 90p when Alf Potts won.

Judge Mettyear said that the case revolved around whether the £25,000 offer was a generous gift or recognition of an obligation to pay. "I have come to the conclusion that the defendants are not the sort of people who would give away £25,000 and there was an obligation here," he said.

He admitted, however, that there were few incentives for dealers to tell police if they suspected that goods in their possession were stolen. A dealer who unwittingly



Home ground: Emma Brown, 4, among the bronze sculptures in the garden commemorating Birnam's link with Beatrix Potter

Scots village lays claim to Peter Rabbit

PETER Rabbit, Mrs Tiggy-winkle, Mr Jeremy Fisher and Mr Tod the fox have returned to their Scottish roots. Almost 50 years after the death of Beatrix Potter, a commemorative garden containing bronze sculptures of some of the author's best-loved creations has opened in the village of Birnam, on the upper reaches of the Tay.

Most people have assumed that Potter conjured up the characters while living in the Lake District. But they evolved during her long summer holidays as a child in Perthshire, now Tayside, it seems, that spurred her imagination.

The garden, conceived by Jim Todd, of Perthshire

by Leslie Linder, who was researching her life.

The diaries, later published, disclosed a remarkable account of her childhood in Perthshire and, more importantly, evidence that Peter Rabbit and his friends were modelled on local people and animals befriended by the writer and illustrator that the English had claimed as their own but. It was the summer holidays she spent in Scotland, that spurred her imagination.

She spent 12 successive annual holidays in Birnam and Dunkeld, on either side of the Tay, near the family's Dalguise House, "where the grass grows greener, the flowers thicker and finer, and the air is sharper", wrote the young Beatrix. She was allowed to wander through the fields and woods at will and it was here that she began her diary.

It was written in a tiny hand and in code because, as she wrote, "no one will ever read this". Letters of the alphabet were switched with each other and some letters were replaced by squiggles and signs. Fifteen years after her death in 1943, the code was cracked

Tourist Board, has taken four years to create. The characters were sculpted by the Fife artist David Annand and each has been placed beside a re-creation of his or her home. Paths trail through the flowers and fungi that Potter illustrated in her books. Her interest in plant life was encouraged by Charles McIntosh, a postman and naturalist.

According to Mr Todd, Mrs Tiggy-winkle the hedgehog was based on the family washerwoman, Kitty MacDonald. The author wrote that she was "a comical,

Peter Rabbit. Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and the rest. The first illustrated book was published in 1902 and cost a shilling (5p).

Potter's family was quite well off. She was born in Kensington, west London, in 1866. She and her brother were discouraged from seeing other children, who were feared to carry germs. They were encouraged, however, to have pets.

Much of their time was spent in the nursery and the trips to Perthshire must have been a welcome respite to their cloistered existence in London. Mr Todd said that Potter was virtually brought up in Birnam and Dunkeld, having visited the area from the age of eight to 20. During those years, she spent from May to October in Scotland.

The garden was created in recognition of the origins of the characters and the fact that there was this story to be told," he said. "When I tried to interest people I got a lot of support as it was fairly well known locally that these people were the basis for her characters. Beatrix Potter did buy a house in the Lake District, married and settled there. She left her estate to the National Trust, which probably gave impetus to the belief that the characters came from out of the Lake District."



Children's favourites: Potter and one of her characters, Mrs Tiggy-winkle

Export loopholes aid art smugglers

WEAKNESSES in official rules and the reward system hamper the fight against art crime, Sarah Jane Checkland reports

THE export system for art and antiques leaves many loopholes for smuggling, a detective told the International Art Theft Conference in London yesterday.

Detective Sergeant Richard Ellis, of Scotland Yard's art and antiques squad, said that the authorities relied on an exporter's description of an item, but that when a licence was issued there were no checks that the details on the application form tallied with what was in the container.

He also condemned an irresponsible attitude in the fine art trade by which dealers avoided buying art they believed to be stolen but did not tell police that the items were being offered for sale.

He admitted, however, that there were few incentives for dealers to tell police if they suspected that goods in their possession were stolen. A dealer who unwittingly

bought a painting by Sir John Lavery which had been stolen from Ireland co-operated with the fine arts squad, but lost what she paid because the law demanded the painting be returned to its owner.

Mr Ellis described the complexities of retrieving art works that had illegally left their countries of origin. Apart from international differences in law on title, police and insurance loss adjusters had to contend with the undertakings by signatories to the Unesco convention on the restitution of heritage items.

Earlier the conference was told that art theft informants were being discouraged because rewards were being held back. In informants from the underworld or the art trade are paid by police and insurance loss adjusters for

information after art thefts.

But a 1971 code drawn up by the insurance industry and police says that rewards will be paid only for "information leading to the recovery of stolen property and to the arrest and conviction of the thief", abbreviated in advertisements in the fine art press to "reward subject to the usual conditions". All too often, delegates were told, getting the stolen work back does not result in a conviction and the payment is forfeit.

Detective Constable Simon Muggleton, of Sussex police, said that another problem was that insurance firms frequently reneged on promises to pay a reward once goods were in police possession.

Mark Dalrymple, a loss adjuster for Cunningham IAP, believed rewards should be

paid "with police approval", or when the operation has been completed to police satisfaction. A condition would be that the informant had no connection with the thief.

Detective Chief Superintendent Peter Gwynn, of City of London police, who was in charge of a recent operation in which a painting stolen from the Alfred Beit collection in Ireland was retrieved from the Euston area of central London, said that the public image of an informant was someone who was "smelly and wearing a mac".

But he or she could come from a variety of backgrounds, their services were useful and should be rewarded.

However, Ken Wright, head of security at the British Museum, said: "Rewards offered by insurance companies are to save costs. If we are not careful we will have a situation whereby people steal to get the ransom."

THE rise of neo-fascism in western Europe is to be investigated by a commission being set up by the Institute of Jewish Affairs in London.

The institute, which researches subjects concerning the Jewish community, has become increasingly worried about extreme nationalism on the Continent. The commission, to be chaired by the Labour peer Lord Clinton-Davis, is expected to examine the appeal of neo-fascism and why it has become so prominent.

Opinion polls suggest, however, that many more of the French share his anti-immigration views. Mainstream politicians are learning to use his anti-immigrant rhetoric. The European Right group of nationalist MEPs, of which he is president, has no British members.

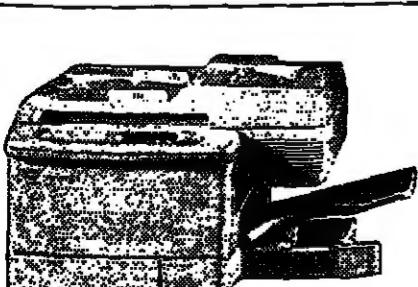
Anti-immigration views are

also gaining ground in countries such as Italy, Austria, Belgium and Germany. In Britain, an outpost of an organisation called Western Goals, based in America, lobbies against immigration and allegedly left-wing charities.

The commission, which will consist of Jews and non-Jews, is likely to suggest positive steps to combat neo-fascism. Members will invite people with relevant experience to submit papers or address it in person. It is likely to begin sitting this autumn, and report next year.

Antony Lerman, director of the institute, said that it had to address the problem of neo-fascism and extreme nationalism. "This is a threat to the democratic system which all concerned people have to combat together."

2 YEARS COPYING FREE*



12 or 15 cpm. Swing-out front loading cassette, Semi-Automatic Document Handler, 50-200% zoom on EP2151, crisp results with Minolta Fine-MT (MicroToning) system.

INSIST ON A MINOLTA LOW MAINTENANCE COPIER IN YOUR OFFICE.

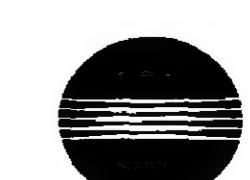
Buy a Minolta EP2121 or EP2151 now, and get up to 24 months copying* for just the cost of paper and power. Because we supply 2 all-in-one imaging units, 7 toner kits and 12 months on-site warranty — free.

Call now for details and your nearest dealer.

MINOLTA SPEEDLINE 0908 210200

THE PEAK OF PERFORMANCE

COPERS - FAX LASER PRINTERS



MINOLTA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wrens to sail royal yacht

Women sailors are to be allowed to serve on the royal yacht Britannia at every level, including captain, it was disclosed last night. Navy chiefs have decided to end the traditional all-male crew made up of 270 officers and ratings known as "yachters". Cabins on the 412ft ship, used by the Queen and the royal family for overseas visits, are being prepared for Wrens. The 4,038-tonne yacht, presently moored near Bordeaux, for the Queen's state visit to France, is based at Portsmouth, Hampshire.

A Royal Navy spokesman said: "The decision is part of our integration of Wrens into the Royal Navy's fleet." Louise Tait, 28, a beauty therapist of Lanchester, Durham, who lost her right leg and wears a prosthesis and the use of her right arm in a motor-cycle crash when she was riding pillion, was awarded £29,983 damages in the High Court. The motorcyclist, Alan Jones, of Hooley, Surrey, and a car driver, Stephen Pitt, of Croydon, south London, admitted liability.

Crash award

Louise Tait, 28, a beauty therapist of Lanchester, Durham, who lost her right leg and wears a prosthesis and the use of her right arm in a motor-cycle crash when she was riding pillion, was awarded £29,983 damages in the High Court.

The motorcyclist, Alan Jones, of Hooley, Surrey, and a car driver, Stephen Pitt, of Croydon, south London, admitted liability.

Running water

The National Rivers Authority is to hold a public meeting at Newbury, Berkshire, to discuss an application to take ten million gallons of water a year from the river Lambourn for racehorse gallops. The authority has already given a licence to a golf club at Donnington, near Newbury, to use millions of gallons from the river for watering greens.

Passenger dies

Caroline Wilkes, 22, of Bridgnorth, Shropshire, was crushed to death when a car in which she was a passenger struck two horses running loose on the Bridgnorth-Telford road. The driver, Timothy Ward, 21, of Norton, Shropshire, was treated in hospital for whiplash injuries.

Church jobs go

The Church of England is to cut 86 jobs among clergy and lay staff in the Chelmsford diocese, the second biggest in the country. The cuts, blamed on the recession, will be achieved through natural wastage over the next four and a half years in parishes throughout Essex and five east London boroughs.

Brief theft

A 15-year-old thief who stole a car from outside a video shop in Tipton, West Midlands, returned it and apologised to the owner. Patrick McHugh, of Tipton, 15 minutes later when he noticed a child asleep on the back seat.

From tomorrow, the FT answers the questions he never would.



On November 5th an empire collapsed.

The discovery of Robert Maxwell's body in the sea off Gran Canaria sparked a series of questions that have remained unanswered for too long.

Now the real story can be told.

Specialist FT writers have been digging deep into the Maxwell empire.

THE BIG LIE: INSIDE MAXWELL'S EMPIRE.

They've had access to Kremlin files. Their enquiries have taken them to the U.S., Eastern Europe, Liechtenstein and the Middle East. They've spoken to former Maxwell insiders who, for the first time, have given their version of events.

The story tells of the complicated web of deceit into which so many were drawn. "THE BIG LIE", unravels this web and explains how one man was able to delude the financial world.

It tells of the divisions and strains in both his family and his companies; the rages, the firings, the lies, the revenge.

This exclusive story unfolds in six consecutive episodes.

It begins tomorrow, only in the FT, and it answers the questions he never would.

No FT...no comment.

Outcry over computer book that reveals virus techniques

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

POLICE are expected to ask publishers and book wholesalers to boycott a new book that shows how to make computer "viruses". The rogue electronic codes that can damage computers and destroy electronic files.

British experts who have seen the American book fear that it could lead to a rise in the number of teenagers attracted to computer crime. Edward Wilding, an adviser to Scotland Yard's computer crime unit and editor of the *Virus Bulletin*, said yesterday that the information given helped even the most computer-literate person to assemble pernicious codes. "We are already seeing viruses which have emanated from that book," he said.

The book, written under the name Mark Ludwig and published from Tucson, Arizona, is designed to appeal to the young and those with anti-establishment views. Around thirty pages attack suppression of virus writing as government censorship and a threat to free speech.

Jim Bates, another adviser

to the police, said it was planned to deal with the book in the same way as a recent German publication which carried details on how to build damaging electronic codes. It had hardly been seen in Britain after officers asked publishers and distributors for a voluntary ban.

Mr Wilding said that the police had been advised to act on the American book "by just about everybody in the industry... the German book is Mickey Mouse stuff in comparison to the Ludwig book." Judith Vincent, head of company and commercial law at the Confederation of British Industry in London, said: "We would be allied to any move to persuade publishers."

Since 1986, when the Brain virus appeared, more than 761 rogue codes and over 400 variants that infect IBM and compatible machines have emerged in increasingly sophisticated and damaging forms which can hide in personal computers, to be triggered later.

In March, a company in Britain found that data had been destroyed by the Michelangelo virus and similar incidents were reported around the world at firms and military installations.

Mr Bates said that even benign viruses could prove damaging by slowing down a computer's processing. He has been assisting the European Space Agency after maps of Earth beamed down by satellite were found to be skewed because of fractionally slower processing speeds caused by a virus.

Concern over the impending arrival of the American book comes as a device called

the Mutation Engine is appearing on electronic bulletin boards across Europe. The device, released in Sofia, Bulgaria, is a guide on how to instruct a computer virus to mutate every time it infects a machine, making it more difficult to identify.

Experts also suspect that some virus writers in the former Eastern bloc and in poorer countries might be writing to order for some firms making detection software. The firms announce a virus is on its way and computer users buy the kits to protect themselves.

Whether such skulduggery is taking place is hard to confirm. What is certain is that many computer experts and the police believe the law on viruses is inadequate. Under the Computer Misuse Act 1990, infecting computers with viruses by means of floppy disks or by downloading them through telephone lines is a crime, but writing them and distributing information is not.

Leading article, page 17



Sick screen: Edward Wilding demonstrating a virus that makes letters vanish

Breast-cancer units given care guidelines

By ALISON ROBERTS

THE first quality-assurance guidelines for NHS breast cancer surgeons and patients were published yesterday to ensure that women receive a uniform standard of care throughout the country. The guidelines, the first of their kind in the world, specify how many women should be visiting screening clinics and the time a patient should expect to wait for an operation.

The guidelines say that at least seven out of ten women should be accepting the invitation from a unit to be screened, and nine out of ten women should be admitted within three weeks of the decision to operate for treatment of a cancer. Units should be able to detect at least 50 cancers in every 10,000 patients and at least one in ten cancers detected should be at a stage before cancer is capable of spreading.

Modern methods detect breast cancer at an increasingly early stage. Naseem Husain, chairman of the Women's Nationwide Cancer Control Campaign's medical advisory committee, said that mastectomy was no longer necessary in many cases and that the guidelines were to be welcomed for laying down a maximum number of mastec-

tomies that should be carried out in cases of early detection.

"There are some people who would do a mastectomy in all cases, and, to some extent, I think there has been a resurgence in that way of treatment," Dr Husain said.

"Now that we have the majority of the population under surveillance, there is a need to try to get more doctors to use conservative therapy."

The guidelines say that over half the women found to have small tumours should be treated by removing the cancer but preserving the breast.

Breast cancer still accounts for one in five female cancer deaths. It is diagnosed in 26,000 women a year in the UK and is fatal to 16,000 of those. On average, 70 per cent of women visit screening clinics regularly, but as few as 20 per cent in inner-city areas accept NHS invitations.

Julieta Patrick, co-ordinator of the NHS Breast Screening Programme, said that the quality criteria would help surgeons to gain resources. If a surgeon could point to clear failings in a unit's standards, he might be able to argue for more funds.

Health. Life & Times, pages 7, 8

Scientists 'trace planets'

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

AMERICAN astronomers said yesterday that they had found evidence that eight stars in our galaxy may be orbited by planets or other bodies.

The evidence is indirect, since the bright light emitted by stars makes it impossible to see the much smaller and darker planets. The assumption has always been that stars other than the Sun do have planetary systems, but proof has proved elusive.

Kenneth Marsh and Michael J. Mahoney told a meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Columbus, Ohio, that they had inferred from infra-red signals that eight sun-like stars in Taurus-Auriga, a region 450 light years from Earth, had planets or other companion bodies. It is not possible to distinguish whether the bodies are planets, faint stars, or brown dwarfs — objects that might have become stars if they had been big enough.

Dr Marsh and Dr Mahoney analysed information from the Infra-red Astronomical Satellite and from ground observations in the early 1980s. They looked at young stars about the mass of the Sun and studied signals from the discs of dust and other material surrounding the stars.

David Black, director of the Lunar and Planetary Institute in Houston, Texas, said it was too soon to tell if Dr Marsh and Dr Mahoney had made a discovery.

Radiation alert after beach find

By OUR TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE discovery of radioactive sea animals on beaches in Cumbria has been linked with a damaged pipe that discharges into the Irish Sea from the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant.

British Nuclear Fuels said that the animals, groups of single-celled creatures called hydroids, appeared to have been washed into the broken section and exposed to low level waste before being washed ashore.

Radioactive hydroids, which resemble long strands of seaweed and can be mistaken for coral or algae, were found last month on a nine-mile stretch of beach between St Bees and Drigg. Some had an unnaturally high reading of 1.5 milliSieverts (mSv). The annual human exposure limit is 50 mSv. This was caused by radioactive metals ruthenium 103 and zirconium 95.

Divers employed by British Nuclear Fuels have investigated the pipe and found more hydroids entangled in fishing twine and other flotsam and jetsam. The firm has concluded that the break in the pipe was made during engineering work last November and the faulty section has been replaced.

Professor Alan Pickering, of the Institute of Freshwater Ecology, said that the hydroids might have been dead when they entered the pipe. They are sheathed in a substance called chitin which absorbs metal particles even when they are dead.

**“Everyone says
it’s a homebuyers’ market.
But only buying
brand new made us agree.”**

Alison & John Robinson

Bargain prices, low interest rates, the temporary suspension of stamp duty*: it is indeed the best homebuyers' market for decades. But making the most of it is not as straightforward as it looks.

For a start many people who are keen to buy before the bargains disappear just can't — either because their own homes won't sell or because they're continually tripped up by broken chains.

Then there's the challenge of making sure you buy a real bargain — one that doesn't have hidden costs that will emerge from the woodwork in the years to come.

No, it's not easy. But the Robinsons discovered the secret of success — they bought brand new.

"We were having difficulty selling our own home so the builder offered us



part-exchange. And it was reassuring to know that there was no one else involved so nothing could go wrong."

New homes are also among the best bargains available. Prices are not only extremely competitive — but the bargain goes beyond price.

Many builders include carpets, curtains and wall coverings in the price.

Some will even pay your moving and

legal costs, and many add the reassurance of redundancy protection insurance.

Moreover your new home will come complete with the most modern fixtures and fittings and is, of course, finished to the last detail. So there are no hidden refurbishment expenses that can be so crippling when you buy an older home.

And there should be very little to spend for years to come. The quality of workmanship, materials and design in brand new homes is currently at an all time high. And they are built to the highest energy saving, safety and environmental standards. (Look particularly for the NHBC Buildmark — a ten year warranty on new homes.)

If you would like more details of brand new homes look in your local papers.

YOUR BEST MOVE IS A BRAND NEW HOME

THE NEW HOMES MARKETING BOARD, 82 NEW CAVENDISH STREET, LONDON W1M 8AD.

*Stamp duty has been suspended on property sales under £250,000 completed before August 20th.

Christian pupils get preference

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE governors of an over-subscribed Roman Catholic school were legally entitled to give entry preference to Christian children over non-Christians from the local Asian community, the House of Lords ruled yesterday.

Five Law Lords unanimously dismissed an appeal by the parents of two girls — one a Hindu, the other a Muslim — who wanted their daughters to be educated at the popular Bishop Challoner voluntary aided girls' comprehensive in Tower Hamlets, east London.

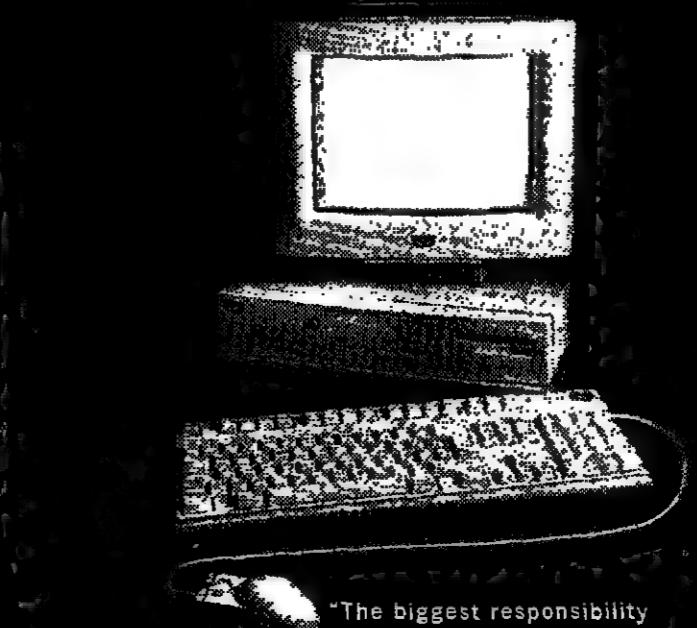
The parents had challenged a Court of Appeal decision last year that the school was legally entitled to continue giving priority to Christian children because there were not enough places for all applicants.

The appeal judges had rejected the parents' claim that "parental choice" should take precedence over the school's freedom to operate a policy of maintaining its religious character and ethos.



to
n
f
r

take your mind for a run



"The biggest responsibility

you have in life is to enjoy yourself."

It was in 350 B.C. that Aristotle uttered

these words of wisdom. Enjoyment may

be one of the last things you associate

with computers, but as of today that can

all change. If you're interested in a

computer that you don't need a degree

to operate, you should see the AMBRA

range of personal computers. Take your

mind for a run by calling 0800 386386.



Major ensures that champion of Tory right has little time for politicking



Portillo: daunting task in spending round

POLITICAL NOTEBOOK
By ROBIN OAKLEY

It has been a hard week for Michael Portillo. The chief secretary to the Treasury has been anointed by the high priests of the Tory right as the man to regain control of the party after the Major years, a period during which they sense their will never be more than an advisory one. As a well known polo player could tell him, being heir apparent at the start of what looks like a long reign is never an easy role.

In this week's cabinet convolution over the Danish referendum fall-out Mr Portillo has been forced to choose between raising a torch for the right (who comprise the bulk, though by no means the full complement, of the Tory Euro-sceptics) and ensuring that he remains an upwardly mobile member of the Major cabinet.

By his statement in Bogotá John Major may have risked prolonging the life of the "cabinet crisis" story. He may be a little optimistic in assuming that he has "squeezed" the problem, the expression he uses to friends. But the cabinet Euro-sceptics are now hog-tied by their own statements and Mr Major's assertion of the cabinet's collective responsibility to the official line on Europe. It is difficult to see further ructions for while, at least at cabinet level.

As for Mr Portillo, he faces an even more daunting task. He has to conduct one of the toughest spending rounds in

recent years against the background of almost imperceptible slow economic recovery. And Mr Major has added to his tasks.

Mr Portillo was charged with talking to spending ministers this year even before their bids went in, an indication of the severity of the expenditure problem. He has been asked not only to scan their plans for future spending but to examine the base lines too. The prime minister concedes that it is a target for a whole parliament.

But Mr Portillo has been asked in effect to comb through each department's existing expenditure as well as any bids made to increase it in coming years.

It is a tribute to the prime minister's regard for the abilities of his youngest cabi-

net minister. It may also be a sign that he does not intend to leave him with too much time on his hands for politicking.

This will probably be the last public spending round as we have known them. Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, is pushing ahead with his plans to mend together the framing of the government's spending plans in the autumn statement and its decisions on how to raise the taxation to pay for them in the Budget.

Mr Major, a former chief secretary and Chancellor himself, is all for reform. At present, he believes, spending ministers all urge the Chancellor to be generous with the rate support grant settlement for local government, promising restraint

with their departmental spending bids. Then, a little later, anxious for kudos in their departments, they bid for those increases after all in the public spending round. Finally, those summer battles forgotten, in the winter and early spring they urge the Chancellor to cut taxation despite having left him no scope to do so. Bringing together the spending and taxation decisions in December, Mr Major believes, will force all ministers to wake up to the consequences of their own claims.

Mr Major's need to intercede from Bogotá on the Tory divisions over Europe underlines the party's continuing problem with the subject which cost Mrs Thatcher so dearly.

Mr Major, Douglas Hurd

and Tristan Garel-Jones, the inside track minister of state at the Foreign Office, who works closely with them both and was with Mr Major in Bogotá, were slow to recognise the Tory party's change of mood after the Danish referendum had made Tory MPs more honest about their reservations on the EC.

But Tory MPs are being slow, too, to realise how convinced are Mr Hurd and Mr Major that a reopening of negotiations on the Maastricht treaty would carry a real peril of losing what they saw as a significant gain, the first reversal of the tide of centralism. The two point out that if the Danes could have their way, Britain would be dragged into the social chapter and the European Commission would

have far wider controls over environmental policy. In a belated response to the new Tory truculence Mr Major has become less confident of getting a deal to satisfy all 12 EC governments. It may require concessions also from his over-excited Euro-sceptics if peace is to be restored in the Tory party.

Perhaps the City rumour-mongers who had him dead in the Colombian jungle may yet have done Mr Major a favour. When Euro-sceptics contemplate the alternatives they may be more inclined to concede him a point too. Tory rebels acknowledge that Mr Major's pragmatism is likely to offer them more over a period than the enthusiasm of Michael Heseltine or Kenneth Clarke.

Tory whips fail to cool Maastricht tempers

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TOY opponents of the Maastricht treaty yesterday defied attempts by government whips to cool internal wrangling over Europe by demanding the head of Jacques Delors.

John Biffen, the former cabinet minister, said that it would be "provocative and counter-productive" for the government to support the reappointment of M Delors as president of the European Commission for the next two and a half years. He was supported by Bill Cash, the Tory MP for Stafford, who said that ideally M Delors, widely seen as the architect of a federal Europe, should not be retained.

Tony Newton, the Commons Leader, who was depairing for the prime minister while he attended the Earth summit in Rio de Janeiro, gave the rebels no encouragement. He said that the question of M Delors's future would not be addressed until the Lisbon EC summit at the end of the month. The indications are that Britain will fall into line with other EC states and endorse his continuation at the helm.

Recriminations also continued over the private meeting of Euro-sceptic ministers last week, which broke with the cabinet line by urging the scrapping of the bill ratifying the Maastricht treaty.

From the pro-European wing of the party, Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch, launched a venomous attack on Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, who was forced to issue a public statement on Wednesday repudiating suggestions that he was at odds with the prime minister.

Mr Adley described Mr Lilley as an "immature cabinet upstart, still wet behind the ears". He suggested that in spite of his retraction Mr Lilley and Michael Portillo, the Treasury chief secretary, another of the "plotters",

should resign their posts. Mr Adley said: "The fundamental argument over Europe was settled decisively 20 years ago. The debates now about pace and style and shape are merely evolution."

"Immature cabinet upstarts still wet behind the ears should pay to John Major the debt of loyalty they rightly demanded for their erstwhile heroine, now political downer queen down the corridor. These tea-room plotters should bite their tongues or pen their resignations."

Mr Adley accused these "lightweight plotters" of interrupting him over his toasted reacake as they "charted" in the inner sanctum of the House of Commons tea-room.

Mr Newton defended his cabinet colleagues, insisting that their views and motives had been misrepresented. He said of Mr Lilley's statement: "He clearly thought — and in my view rightly — that his position had been misconstrued and it was sensible to make that clear. I am glad to note in some quarters that journalists have begun to question the interpretation that had been placed on a meeting that was interpreted as a conspiracy, when it appeared to have government whips present," he said.

On the fate of the commission presidency, Mr Biffen urged Mr Newton to bear constantly in mind the speech made nearly four years ago by M Delors, when he had said 80 per cent of economic decisions and perhaps even 80 per cent of fiscal and social decisions should be subject to negotiation at community level. Mr Biffen added: "That's the unacceptable ambitions of political centralism and in those circumstances the reappointment of Mr Delors would be provocative and counter-productive."

Mr Newton said the government was concerned to enhance and underpin the concept of subsidiarity. "The Maastricht agreement did precisely that and the British will continue to pursue that objective."

Edwina Currie, Tory MP for Derbyshire South, who is planning a new career as a European MP, weighed in from the pro-European wing of the party in the Commons. She said that many Tory MPs had voted for the Maastricht deal because it was the best the country could have got and they had not changed their minds.

Treaty fears, page 1
EC decisions, page 13
Peter Riddell, page 16

The week ahead in Parliament

The main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be:

Monday: Boundary Commissions bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Debate of Opposition motion on the water industry.

Wednesday: Bankruptcy (Scotland) bill, second reading.

Thursday: Motion on Northern Ireland expenditure.

Friday: Private member's motions.

The main business in the House of Lords is expected to be:

Monday: Civil Service (Management Functions) bill, second reading. Northern Ireland anti-terrorism order.

Tuesday: Judicial Pensions and Retirement bill, second reading. Debate on intestacy.

Wednesday: Debates on Hong Kong and South China; on Palestinian refugees; and on religious education in schools.

Thursday: Non-Domestic Rating bill, all stages. Dog Control and Welfare bill, second reading.



Sheltering from the storm: Tory MP Robert Adley, who yesterday called Peter Lilley "an immature upstart"

New MPs take Thatcher line

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW Tory MPs are putting pressure on the government to cut public spending, keep down public borrowing and cut interest rates by at least half a percentage point.

The intake of more than 60 MPs are lobbying Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, and Michael Portillo, chief secretary to the Treasury, over the need for tight control on economic policy. Ten MPs met Mr Lamont on Wednesday and urged him to cut public spending to the bone by keeping public sector pay rises to a minimum.

Peter Luffi, the new Tory MP for Worcester, said yesterday that he would be pressuring Mr Portillo for immediate interest rate cuts. "I would welcome a 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates in the near future and a full percentage point by the end of the year. Unless you get an interest rate cut soon the recovery will be undermined."

David Wilkes, Tory MP for Havant, said: "A lot of us are saying that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

the new MPs have no sympathy with pouring billions into caring Conservatism. Universal benefits need to be cut and spending on health and education need to be held down, they argue. "We cannot afford the generous real increases that have been given to health over the last two years," said one new MP.

Peter Luffi, the new Tory MP for Worcester, said yesterday that he would be pressuring Mr Portillo for immediate interest rate cuts. "I would welcome a 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates in the near future and a full percentage point by the end of the year. Unless you get an interest rate cut soon the recovery will be undermined."

David Wilkes, Tory MP for Havant, said: "A lot of us are saying that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

public spending." Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton, says it is vital to cut public spending to offset demand-led spending on unemployment benefit.

John Townend, MP for Bridlington and the new chairman of the backbench finance committee, admitted that the new MPs were pushing a particularly tough line on economic policy. "I think they are very dry in economic terms. We [the backbench finance committee] would like to see interest rates cut and inflation brought down, and that requires keeping public sector wages down to 3 to 4 percent. Mr Townend admitted that Mr Lamont had been prevented from bringing interest rates by the ERM, and argued that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

the new MPs have no sympathy with pouring billions into caring Conservatism. Universal benefits need to be cut and spending on health and education need to be held down, they argue. "We cannot afford the generous real increases that have been given to health over the last two years," said one new MP.

Peter Luffi, the new Tory MP for Worcester, said yesterday that he would be pressuring Mr Portillo for immediate interest rate cuts. "I would welcome a 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates in the near future and a full percentage point by the end of the year. Unless you get an interest rate cut soon the recovery will be undermined."

David Wilkes, Tory MP for Havant, said: "A lot of us are saying that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

public spending." Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton, says it is vital to cut public spending to offset demand-led spending on unemployment benefit.

John Townend, MP for Bridlington and the new chairman of the backbench finance committee, admitted that the new MPs were pushing a particularly tough line on economic policy. "I think they are very dry in economic terms. We [the backbench finance committee] would like to see interest rates cut and inflation brought down, and that requires keeping public sector wages down to 3 to 4 percent. Mr Townend admitted that Mr Lamont had been prevented from bringing interest rates by the ERM, and argued that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

the new MPs have no sympathy with pouring billions into caring Conservatism. Universal benefits need to be cut and spending on health and education need to be held down, they argue. "We cannot afford the generous real increases that have been given to health over the last two years," said one new MP.

Peter Luffi, the new Tory MP for Worcester, said yesterday that he would be pressuring Mr Portillo for immediate interest rate cuts. "I would welcome a 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates in the near future and a full percentage point by the end of the year. Unless you get an interest rate cut soon the recovery will be undermined."

David Wilkes, Tory MP for Havant, said: "A lot of us are saying that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

public spending." Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton, says it is vital to cut public spending to offset demand-led spending on unemployment benefit.

John Townend, MP for Bridlington and the new chairman of the backbench finance committee, admitted that the new MPs were pushing a particularly tough line on economic policy. "I think they are very dry in economic terms. We [the backbench finance committee] would like to see interest rates cut and inflation brought down, and that requires keeping public sector wages down to 3 to 4 percent. Mr Townend admitted that Mr Lamont had been prevented from bringing interest rates by the ERM, and argued that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

the new MPs have no sympathy with pouring billions into caring Conservatism. Universal benefits need to be cut and spending on health and education need to be held down, they argue. "We cannot afford the generous real increases that have been given to health over the last two years," said one new MP.

Peter Luffi, the new Tory MP for Worcester, said yesterday that he would be pressuring Mr Portillo for immediate interest rate cuts. "I would welcome a 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates in the near future and a full percentage point by the end of the year. Unless you get an interest rate cut soon the recovery will be undermined."

David Wilkes, Tory MP for Havant, said: "A lot of us are saying that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

public spending." Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton, says it is vital to cut public spending to offset demand-led spending on unemployment benefit.

John Townend, MP for Bridlington and the new chairman of the backbench finance committee, admitted that the new MPs were pushing a particularly tough line on economic policy. "I think they are very dry in economic terms. We [the backbench finance committee] would like to see interest rates cut and inflation brought down, and that requires keeping public sector wages down to 3 to 4 percent. Mr Townend admitted that Mr Lamont had been prevented from bringing interest rates by the ERM, and argued that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

the new MPs have no sympathy with pouring billions into caring Conservatism. Universal benefits need to be cut and spending on health and education need to be held down, they argue. "We cannot afford the generous real increases that have been given to health over the last two years," said one new MP.

Peter Luffi, the new Tory MP for Worcester, said yesterday that he would be pressuring Mr Portillo for immediate interest rate cuts. "I would welcome a 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates in the near future and a full percentage point by the end of the year. Unless you get an interest rate cut soon the recovery will be undermined."

David Wilkes, Tory MP for Havant, said: "A lot of us are saying that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

public spending." Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton, says it is vital to cut public spending to offset demand-led spending on unemployment benefit.

John Townend, MP for Bridlington and the new chairman of the backbench finance committee, admitted that the new MPs were pushing a particularly tough line on economic policy. "I think they are very dry in economic terms. We [the backbench finance committee] would like to see interest rates cut and inflation brought down, and that requires keeping public sector wages down to 3 to 4 percent. Mr Townend admitted that Mr Lamont had been prevented from bringing interest rates by the ERM, and argued that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

the new MPs have no sympathy with pouring billions into caring Conservatism. Universal benefits need to be cut and spending on health and education need to be held down, they argue. "We cannot afford the generous real increases that have been given to health over the last two years," said one new MP.

Peter Luffi, the new Tory MP for Worcester, said yesterday that he would be pressuring Mr Portillo for immediate interest rate cuts. "I would welcome a 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates in the near future and a full percentage point by the end of the year. Unless you get an interest rate cut soon the recovery will be undermined."

David Wilkes, Tory MP for Havant, said: "A lot of us are saying that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

public spending." Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton, says it is vital to cut public spending to offset demand-led spending on unemployment benefit.

John Townend, MP for Bridlington and the new chairman of the backbench finance committee, admitted that the new MPs were pushing a particularly tough line on economic policy. "I think they are very dry in economic terms. We [the backbench finance committee] would like to see interest rates cut and inflation brought down, and that requires keeping public sector wages down to 3 to 4 percent. Mr Townend admitted that Mr Lamont had been prevented from bringing interest rates by the ERM, and argued that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

the new MPs have no sympathy with pouring billions into caring Conservatism. Universal benefits need to be cut and spending on health and education need to be held down, they argue. "We cannot afford the generous real increases that have been given to health over the last two years," said one new MP.

Peter Luffi, the new Tory MP for Worcester, said yesterday that he would be pressuring Mr Portillo for immediate interest rate cuts. "I would welcome a 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates in the near future and a full percentage point by the end of the year. Unless you get an interest rate cut soon the recovery will be undermined."

David Wilkes, Tory MP for Havant, said: "A lot of us are saying that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

public spending." Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton, says it is vital to cut public spending to offset demand-led spending on unemployment benefit.

John Townend, MP for Bridlington and the new chairman of the backbench finance committee, admitted that the new MPs were pushing a particularly tough line on economic policy. "I think they are very dry in economic terms. We [the backbench finance committee] would like to see interest rates cut and inflation brought down, and that requires keeping public sector wages down to 3 to 4 percent. Mr Townend admitted that Mr Lamont had been prevented from bringing interest rates by the ERM, and argued that Britain should be pressing for a realignment within it.

the new MPs have no sympathy with pouring billions into caring Conservatism. Universal benefits need to be cut and spending on health and education need to be held down, they argue. "We cannot afford the generous real increases that have been given to health over the last two years," said one new MP.

Peter Luffi, the new Tory MP for Worcester, said yesterday that he would be pressuring Mr Portillo for immediate interest rate cuts. "I would welcome a 0.5 per cent cut in interest rates in the near future and

icking

German states seek role in EC decisions as Maastricht price

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

THE German *Länder* are insisting on the right to be involved in all decisions of the European Community council of ministers, including those on foreign policy, as their price for ratifying the Maastricht treaty.

That was made clear yesterday by Florian Gerster, from the Rhineland Palatinate, speaking on behalf of fellow European affairs ministers from all 16 states, who met in Bonn and unanimously agreed to defend German federalism against Brussels centralisation.

The European Community's foreign policy was no longer German foreign policy.

Helmut Kohl, the chancellor

but, internal European policy, Herr Gerster said. The states, therefore, were determined to see their right to consultation on every subject written into the German constitution. The government should take note, he said, that ratification of the Maastricht treaty "is not yet certain".

The Bundesrat (upper house), which must ratify the treaty, is composed of representatives from the states.

Most are from the opposition Social Democrats, and the rest are Christian Democrats or from their Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union.

Klaus Kinkel, the foreign minister, is resisting any idea of handing any competence over foreign affairs to the states. "We are not a state federation, but a federal state," he said. Herr Kinkel, however, is a member of the Free Democrats, junior partners in the government coalition, and they have no seats in the Bundesrat.

The minister agreed that the concept of Europe was no longer as well anchored and accepted in Germany as it should be. "We have to tell the people how important this Europe is, because we Germans are among those who profit most from it," he said.

The stand by the states against centralisation reflects a growing popular mood. Barely half of Germans are in favour of European unity and nearly three-quarters are opposed to giving up the mark in favour of a common European currency, according to a Forsa poll for *Stern* magazine, published yesterday. *Stern* found 72 per cent wanted a referendum on the Maastricht treaty — even though that is impossible under the constitution.

The poll also indicated that only 18 per cent would support the transfer of decision-making on foreign, security, social, economic and financial policies to the European Commission and parliament.

Sixty-two leading German economists also condemned plans for a European currency last night. "The hasty introduction of a European monetary union will expose Western Europe to strong economic tensions that can lead to political tension in the foreseeable future and endanger the goal of integration," the economists said.

An independent trade union, with 225,000 members, many in heavy industry, will strike from Monday in an attempt to hasten Mr Milosevic's departure. However, given the growing shortage of raw materials as sanctions continue to take effect, the workers could be laid off before they can walk out.

The dissenting professors, including Karl Schiller, the former economics minister, argued that the Maastricht treaty was too weak to impose the long-term harmonisation all EC members must achieve to make the economic and monetary union work. "Fulfilling the conditions on a certain date could be more or less accidental and therefore not proof of the convergence that is needed."

Major's gloom, page 1
Wilson of the 90s, page 16

Serb leader demands partition before lifting airport siege

FROM BILL FROST AND DISSA TREVESIAN IN BELGRADE

A UNITED Nations relief convoy, which had been marooned on the outskirts of Sarajevo during clashes between rival fighters in the Bosnian capital, last night arrived at UN headquarters in the city.

The convoy had been brought to a halt because UN vehicles sent to escort it turned back on Wednesday after a French soldier was wounded in an outburst of fire. The rebels said they would form a new party based on democratic principles.

As the chorus of disapproval grew, the state-run television launched a counter-attack. It broadcast the contents of telegrams sent to the president urging him to stay on and accusing his opponents of treachery. One read: "These conspirators are working with others to bring Serbia to its knees." Among those loyal to the government, a "Fortress Serbia" mentality has emerged.

An independent trade union, with 225,000 members, many in heavy industry, will strike from Monday in an attempt to hasten Mr Milosevic's departure. However, given the growing shortage of raw materials as sanctions continue to take effect, the workers could be laid off before they can walk out.

Belgrade buzzed yesterday with reports that food rationing was to be introduced before the month is out. Petrol coupons were issued this week, putting an end to queues at filling stations but also provoking anger among motorists allowed only 7 gallons of fuel a month. Musicians have refused to take part in concerts on state-run radio or television until the president stands down.

While fighting raged across

Major's gloom, page 1
Wilson of the 90s, page 16

Nuclear smuggling ring foiled

BY GABRIEL RONAY

SEVEN members of an East European nuclear smuggling ring have been arrested by Austria's anti-terrorist commando in a Vienna suburb as they tried to pass 2.5lb of enriched uranium to an Austrian contact.

The nuclear material, which can be used in bomb making and is worth more than \$600,000, was "designed for an Arab country," Vienna police said, but they refused to elaborate because of the sensitivity of the investigations. Four of those arrested were Hungarians and two were Czechs. They were not named.

A high-ranking official of the Hungarian national security agency involved in the Hungarian end of the investigation said that the arrests were "very significant". They provided Vienna with proof that a well-organised network of former KGB agents, the Russian mafia and international racketeers, were smuggling enriched uranium regularly to an Arab country "interested in nuclear bomb-making". The official would not name the Arab country for fear of retribution.

He said that analysis at Austria's Seibersdorf nuclear research station of the radioactive material disclosed that it was "moderately enriched, 4.4 per cent uranium-325, which originated from a VVER-1,000-type Soviet nuclear reactor". With the collapse of the Soviet Union, state control over the continued production of military-grade enriched uranium and plutonium has become lax and the westward flow of

nuclear material has become a flood. Concern is increasing in Central and Western Europe because the smuggled nuclear material is going to the highest bidder — countries with extensive funds and few political scruples.

In the past year at least 11 illegal sales of smuggled Soviet nuclear material have been foiled across Europe. Some were no more than "nuclear car boot sales", others were fake "red mercury" scams, but the rest were plutonium and enriched uran-

ium consignments in search of a buyer. The Vienna catch was part of a series of consignments along established routes from the former Soviet Union to an Arab state, the Hungarian official said.

David Kyd, of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, said recently that "the temptations and trafficking opportunities [from the former Soviet Union] are growing. At some stage we are going to find the big one — there is a lot of nuclear material scattered about."

With hindsight, the attempt to overthrow Mr Gorbachev

in the summer of 1991.

L&T section, page 7

Teenage fans worship Milan 'clean-up' judge

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN MILAN

THE investigation by judges in Milan into political bribery and corruption has turned their dilapidated Palace of Justice into a hallowed shrine for ordinary Milanese, second only to the cathedral.

Fall-out from the scandal may have frustrated the ambition of Bettino Craxi to become the next prime minister, but magistrates say the battle against bribery in the Socialist party's stronghold will continue.

He said that analysis at Austria's Seibersdorf nuclear research station of the radioactive material disclosed that it was "moderately enriched, 4.4 per cent uranium-325, which originated from a VVER-1,000-type Soviet nuclear reactor". With the collapse of the Soviet Union, state control over the continued production of military-grade enriched uranium and plutonium has become lax and the westward flow of

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous wink and a vigorous handshake. However, he says: "You know I cannot make declarations. Talk to me."

"A whole system of corruption is pouring out like oil," said Judge Saverio Borrelli, the Milan chief public prosecutor. He said that the collaboration of ordinary citizens was making the magistrates' task easier. Signor Borrelli said the city had reached a point

where people appeared to be "saturated" with corruption. On Wednesday hundreds of Milanese teenagers travelled to a discothèque in Turin for the inauguration of a fan club for Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate handling "Operation Clean Hands". Scores of autograph hunters loitered on the Palace of Justice steps to await their hero and he gets about 150 letters a day.

Signor Di Pietro, a 42-year-old former policeman, does not revel in his popularity. Wandering around the grubby corridors of his office in a ill-fitting, baggy suit, he greets two foreign reporters with a mischievous

Rebel son of the Broederbond preaches justice for blacks



Naudé: he demands honesty in government

BEYERS Naudé bears a famous name. He is an Afrikaner of impeccable ancestry. He is a *domine* (a pastor), in the Dutch Reformed Church.

His father fought in the Boer war against the British and later founded the Broederbond, the secret brotherhood whose members long dominated Afrikaner public life and which provided much of the intellectual basis and political direction for the white supremacists.

On Sunday, Pastor Naudé could be found in Alexandra, the black township on the northeastern fringe of suburban white Johannesburg, preaching to an all-black congregation. He spoke out from

A former member of the Afrikaner establishment is now preaching in a black township, Michael Hamlyn writes

the pulpit against the corruption and waste in white public life, and declared that there could be no peace in South Africa until there was honesty in government.

Mr Naudé is an unusual Afrikaner. In 1960 he was a respected leader of the church and a prominent member of the Broederbond. But soon after the Sharpeville killings he thought again about his position and began three decades of Christian challenge to the apartheid regime. He

was placed under restrictions from 1977 until 1984. During that banning he decided to switch allegiance from the white Dutch Reformed Church to the black Dutch Reformed Church in Africa, and to preach the gospel to his black neighbours.

Under the terms of his banning order he might not enter black, Coloured or Indian residential areas, so he could pray only in white Johannesburg, with the servant community. After 1984 he became co-pastor at the Alexandra church and now appears regularly on the dais high above the congregation, his sermons translated line by line into Sotho.

"I think often of my father," he said after the service was over. "I think of his deep sense of justice, and the way he fought against the British for the Afrikaner. But he never transcended that. He never fought for justice for the black community."

Pastor Naudé, now 77, is still fighting. He was nominated by the African National Congress as one of its team at the Groote Schuur talks last year, the first steps towards the constitutional talks now

under way with the de Klerk government. Some of his family have still not forgiven him for having changed sides so violently.

His sermon on Sunday was preached on two long texts: Jeremiah chapter 6, verses 9-21, and Psalm 85, verses 1-30. Jeremiah presents God as a god of anger and judgment. The psalm shows Him seemingly the opposite, a god of love and forgiveness. "Is this the same God who is talking?" he asked. "Or is he talking about the same people? Or is God a little bit confused?"

Dr Naudé reconciled the different images of God in a thesis that had an austere message for South Africa. Contrasting the deep-seated desire for peace among the people with the dishonesty and bribery abroad in the state, he declared: "There can never be love without faithfulness. There can never be peace without righteousness. As long as we do not accept this, then our prayers for peace will not be heard."

As his sermon finished, some of the congregation were induced to stand while the story of their suffering was revealed. Many of them had been driven from their homes by threats of death, as well as by grenades and bullets.

• ANC anger: South African government plans to give the

Baker calls off Rio trip for arms talks

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

JAMES Baker, the US Secretary of State, will meet Andrei Kozyrev, his Russian counterpart, in London today in a last-ditch attempt to agree deep new cuts in nuclear weapons before President Bush and President Yeltsin hold their first official summit in Washington next week.

Mr Baker dropped plans to accompany Mr Bush to the Rio Earth summit yesterday in order to concentrate exclusively on securing the accord which the two leaders hoped would be the centrepiece of their meeting. The talks will be held initially at the Russian embassy and could continue over the weekend.

Mr Baker and Mr Kozyrev met for two days in Washington earlier this week. They agreed new ceilings of roughly 4,700 nuclear warheads each, well below the levels of about 8,500 agreed in last year's Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, but failed to agree which missiles should be eliminated to achieve those ceilings.

The Bush administration insisted on the elimination of most, if not all, Russia's land-based multiple-warhead missiles, the backbone and most destabilising element of Moscow's nuclear arsenal. America would eliminate its own equivalent missiles, far fewer in number, but was not prepared to make reciprocal re-

ductions in its own area of superiority, submarine-launched missiles.

On Wednesday, President Yeltsin publicly accused the US of seeking to achieve a strategic advantage over his country, but the administration was undaunted. Officials saw this as an attempt by Mr Yeltsin to placate the Russian military and as the sort of public posturing typical of arms negotiations. They pointed out that, even as Mr Yeltsin was making his accusation, Mr Kozyrev was continuing to negotiate with Mr Baker by telephone. It was during another telephone call yesterday that the two officials agreed to meet in London.

In an interview broadcast on Russian television last night, Mr Yeltsin said that he was going to the Washington summit "with hand outstretched, not to beg but extended in friendship". He also appeared to suggest that Russia could be open to making further cuts in strategic weapons. "With 50 per cent of our people living below the poverty line, we don't need so many warheads: we have 12,000 strategic-range warheads alone," he said.

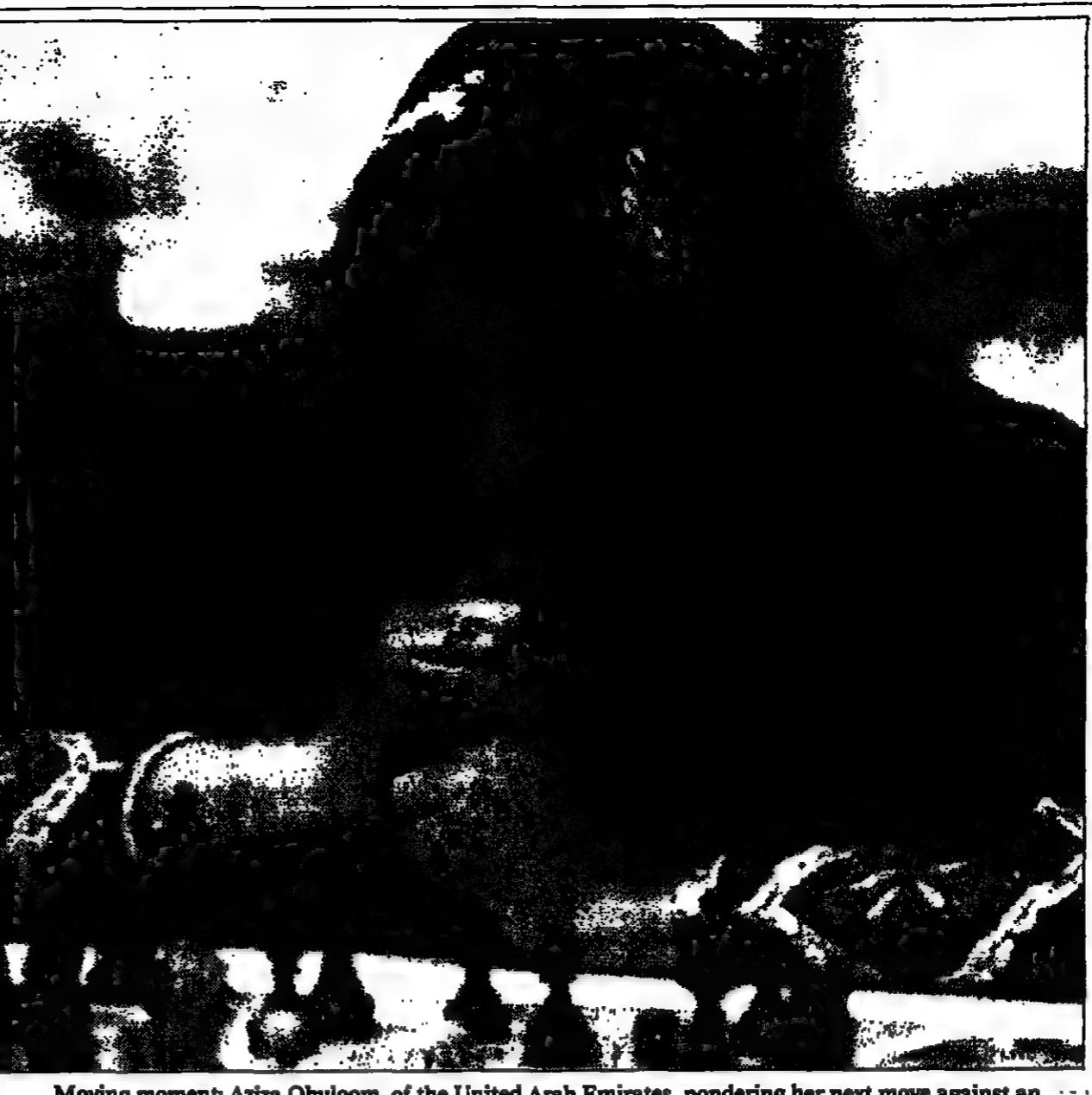
There are strong pressures on both sides to reach an agreement. Mr Bush and Mr Yeltsin both face serious political problems at home and an important arms control

agreement would boost their domestic standings. With tensions rising throughout the former Soviet Union, the Americans want to lock Russia into a new round of nuclear cuts as fast as possible.

Russian intransigence on this issue, in a year when foreign aid is already anathema to most Americans, could further delay a big American assistance package inching through Congress.

In Washington, the administration is being berated by congressmen and arms control experts who believe it is jeopardising deep cuts that are readily available in its obsession with those Russian missiles capable of reaching American cities. "Russian leaders have made clear their desire to negotiate deep mutual cuts, but the administration persists with proposals where US cuts would be minimal," said Joe Biden, a senior Democrat on the Senate foreign relations committee. "This translates to Russian leaders as the pursuit of unilateral advantage."

Three former American arms control officials held a press conference yesterday to condemn the administration's intransigence. The US had been "spoiled" by the former Soviet Union's latter-day willingness to "roll over and accept one-sided proposals", said Raymond Garthoff.



Moving moment: Aziza Qhaloom, of the United Arab Emirates, pondering her next move against an Angolan opponent in the women's division of the World Chess Olympiad in Manila yesterday

Now from Sun Alliance comes a new and different savings plan.

Crescendo is designed to help the spending power of your savings stay high - whatever happens to prices. So when it comes to spending your final cash sum, you shouldn't find it's been eaten away by inflation.

The way it works is simple. You begin by setting just a little aside each month. And then we will automatically increase the amount you save by an affordable 10% of your initial savings each year.

savings Are you keeping up with

As the years go by, you should hardly notice the difference, but the effect on your final sum could be dramatic. This is because your Guaranteed Sum will be fixed at a high level from the outset to reflect your growing contributions.

And since the bonuses which are added to your plan each year will be based on your high Guaranteed Sum, your money should escalate into a very valuable sum in just 11 years.

If you're aged from 18 to 79, why not discover how Crescendo could escalate to help you keep up with inflation?

Cut out the coupon today. Once accepted, we will send you full details and your own FREE Personal Illustration.

FREE TRAVEL ALARM CLOCK when you apply (only one gift per applicant).

FREE PLUG-IN TELEPHONE, as soon as you start your plan.

FREE WEEKEND BREAK FOR TWO, if your initial premium is £25 or more a month. Accommodation is free - you just pay for your breakfast and evening meal.

Alternatively phone us **FREE** weekdays 9am to 8pm.

0800 525 575

APPLY BY 19 JUNE 1992. Although these terms may be available later, they cannot be guaranteed after this date.

To: Sun Alliance, LDM (CISP) Dept., FREEPOST RCC 1966, Horsham, W. Sussex RH2 2XY.

1. Surname _____
Forename(s) _____
Title _____

Address _____
Postcode _____

Age _____ Date of Birth / /

Marital Status _____
(please be specific)

Occupation _____
(please be specific)

2. Tick the amount you wish to invest each month for the first year*:

£100 (max) £80 £60 £30 £20

Any other amount £ _____ (min £15)

*Please note: Your payments will increase by 10% each year.
i.e. £20 a month in year 1 becomes £22 a month in year 2,
£24 in year 3, rising to £40 in year 11.

Underwritten by Sun Alliance & London Assurance Co. Ltd. Member of LAUTRO.
Available only to persons residing in the United Kingdom.

inflation?

crescendo
increasing savings plan

G57/C1 T18 LD/W

YES NO

3. Answer 'YES' or 'NO' to each question below:
If you answer 'YES' to any question, please attach details. You may still be accepted.

- a) Have you attended, or have you been advised to attend, for any consultation, treatment or test at any hospital, clinic or surgery within the last two years?
- b) Have you ever received, or have you any reason for expecting to receive, any counselling, medical advice, treatment or tests, including blood tests, in connection with AIDS, Hepatitis or any sexually transmitted disease?
- c) Has any proposal made to an insurance company on your life been declined, postponed or accepted on special terms?
- d) Do you participate in any hazardous activity?

This is a profit-free savings plan with built-in guarantees and bonuses dependent on future profits.

We will occasionally tell you about other companies' products or services, which we feel you might be interested in. Please tick here if you would prefer not to take part in this opportunity.

We may phone you to help with any queries you may have.

SUN ALLIANCE
LIFE & PENSIONS

PAGE

Israeli voters uninspired as leaders sidestep issues

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S next government, after the forthcoming general election, will face momentous decisions, and yet the campaign has failed to capture the public imagination.

Those elected will have to tackle negotiations with hostile Arab neighbours and rebellious Palestinians, attract one million Russian Jews, and lead the country through the uncertain political landscape of the post-Cold war era.

The campaign has been dominated by two uninspiring veteran politicians, Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, and Yitzhak Rabin, the Labour leader. With only 11 days until voting on June 23, politicians on the campaign trail would be well advised to take their supporters with them to avoid the prospect of being ignored by a cynical and apathetic electorate.

Only a third of television

viewers tune into the prime-time political broadcasts, parties are finding it difficult to recruit volunteers and stickers and election posters are conspicuously absent in a country normally obsessed with politics.

On Monday in the northern town of Qiryat Shemona, not even the presence of Likud's heavyweight leadership, including Mr Shamir, David Levy, the foreign minister, and Moshe Arens, the defence minister, could attract no more than a couple of hundred locals to a rally.

"There is not too much interest in public rallies now," admitted Likud's spokesman, Yossi Ahimeir. "People prefer to stay at home and watch television or videos."

The opposition Labour party has already had to cancel a rally in Tel Aviv. "This time the public atmosphere surrounding the elections is

much more calm and apathetic in comparison to previous election campaigns," said Mr Rubin. "There is no inclination towards big assemblies and most of the work is conducted in house visits and through personal contacts."

Here too, however, the public's reaction has been distinctly lacklustre; one luckless Labour campaigner found himself alone at a campaign reception because none of the 80 guests had bothered to show up.

Part of the reason for the lack of public interest has been the uncharismatic performance of the two leaders and their sidestepping of key issues such as land, peace, the economy and immigration.

Cynicism has been compounded by the growing realisation that the probable outcome is another unwieldy coalition government.

Tokyo is no

Tricks of India's unholy trade exposed

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

One of the more enduring myths of India is being shattered. Many of the gaily painted sadhus, holy men who travel about doing magic with god-given powers, are being exposed as confidence tricksters raking in money from gullible villagers and others.

The mysterious East is a mirage, it does not exist," said Charu Gupta, who set up a group called the Delhi Science Centre to dispel, one by one, the miracles in the sadhus' repertoire. So far the group has exposed 150 of the most popular tricks, and is exploring phenomena such as levitation - or what looks like levitation.

Her group visits slums and middle-class areas to demonstrate the sadhus' techniques and demystify them. The most common trick is the use of a pointed trident that is seemingly pushed through the tongue.

In fact, it is bent in the middle and the tongue pokes through. Many tricks are

performed. Some have been confronted angrily by the holy men, who say their livelihood is being affected.

"We go to school teachers, students and voluntary organisations to try to spread the message," Mrs Gupta said. "People are afraid to question the sadhus because they are believed to possess such strong powers.

Some people fear being cursed or think they will suddenly burst into flames. The way the sadhus dress up and decorate themselves makes them look daunting and people are intimidated. Our mission is to fight this kind of superstition and stop these so-called holy men robbing people."

Mrs Gupta said there were tens of thousands of nomadic holy men in India because it was an easy way of earning a living. "Superstition is deeply rooted. In Bihar, witches are still stoned to death. Sometimes they are forced to walk around naked. Anybody who sits on the street with a holy picture and a few daubs of paint on his face can call himself a holy man. God is the biggest money-puller India has."

The sadhus operate at all levels of society. Most politicians visit them for advice, as do a number of businessmen. "For the poor masses, visiting the sadhu is a temporary respite from a hard life," Mrs Gupta said. "But they come away worse off, because all their money has gone straight into the holy man's pocket."

• Colombo: More than 2,000 Sri Lankan troops attacked Tamil separatist rebels in the northern Jaffna peninsula yesterday and at least 55 people were killed in fighting at close quarters, the military said. The army, backed by bombers and artillery fire, launched the attack from the town of Ellipalai, which it captured from rebel control last month. (Reuters)

aid rich
lets rich
poor nat
squabbl

cks

UN aid figure sets rich and poor nations squabbling

FROM MICHAEL McCARTHY IN RIO DE JANEIRO

A SMALL figure, 0.7, is beginning to obsess the two camps of countries, the rich and the poor, now squaring up to each other as the Earth summit in Rio de Janeiro enters its final stage.

The figure represents the percentage of national wealth that has been the long-standing official United Nations target for annual foreign aid donations by the industrialised countries, including Britain. Sixteen of the 18 principal aid donors accept the target — the United States and Switzerland do not — but only the Nordic countries and The Netherlands have managed to meet it. Britain's contribution has been steadily falling over the past 13 years from 0.81 per cent in 1979 to 0.27 per cent in 1990.

A promise by all donors to meet the target figure by a fixed date is becoming the

In the past few days, however, the two camps have begun discussing the text on finance, with the G77 nations moderating their demands. A promise to match the UN aid target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product by a fixed date, such as 2000, offers the possibility of a compromise.

Kamal Nath, the Indian environment minister and leader of the G77, said this week that was the group's minimum demand. Mr Nath has some enthusiastic allies among the donor nations.

The Nordic countries are pushing for 0.7 per cent with a timetable to be accepted, and the Danes are pressing their European colleagues.

Britain is in a difficult position. Although the United States rejects 0.7 per cent labelling it economic nonsense, Britain has accepted the target in principle, while declining to attach any timetable to it. "Britain will move towards it as and when economic circumstances permit," Mr Major told the Commons in April last year.

Britain's present aid budget of more than £1.8 billion represented 0.32 per cent of gross national product last year, one of the lowest figures in the OECD. To achieve 0.7 per cent would require more than a penny to be put on income tax.

"Focusing on the totem pole of 0.7 is actually misleading," said Baroness Chalker, the overseas development minister, who earlier this week expressed her anger at the British aid budget's drop to 0.27 per cent of GNP in 1990. "The figure is not the only measure of what is going on. Also, the quality and targeting of aid, and what it is spent on, are as important as how much is spent."

Agenda 21 aims to channel economic growth along an environmentally friendly path and for that to be carried out fully in the developing nations will require an increase in foreign aid. The Group of 77, the developing nations attending Rio, have spent ten months of the



Culture clash: Quiambeti, a member of the Brazilian Kayapo Indian tribe, enjoying a hot dog at the Global Forum, the alternative Earth summit



EARTH
SUMMIT

Britain champions cause of persecuted street children

FROM ROBIN OAKLEY IN RIO DE JANEIRO

JOHN Major will today press President Collor de Melo of Brazil on what is being done about the street children, such as those whom the prime minister met in the São Martinho refuge in Rio yesterday.

Britain has taken more interest in the fate of the children, outcasts, orphans and runaways than any other nation, says Paulo Mello, a Brazilian deputy who campaigns for them. Mr Major is a patron of the Jubilee Trust which helps finance the São Martinho centre.

Yesterday he presented the centre with footballs and football strips after watching a dance display which involved a cross between the limbo and kick-boxing, followed by a Brazilian equivalent of a Kentucky Fried Chicken. With open-sided trams rattling across a rickety viaduct 50ft above and amid a stench of gas, Mr Major admired the lithesome athleticism of the dancers after completing his tour of the refuge. A string quartet appropriately played the

Beatles' *Eleanor Rigby*, the song with the line about "all the lonely people".

Brazilian groups are campaigning for the Brazilian government to act to stop the killing of street children, who live on scraps and their wits, by vigilantes. The vigilantes justify the killings by claiming that the children are responsible for Brazil's horrific levels of street crime.

The true figures are not known, but the Jubilee Trust claims that two million Brazilian children aged between 10 and 15 have been forced into prostitution and that there are 8.5 million child workers in Brazil, 60 per cent of whom do not go to school and 40 per cent of whom have no income.

Campaigners say that 350 street children have been killed by death squads already this year in Rio alone.

● **Gallery tour:** John Major strolled through an exhibition of works by a British botanical artist at Rio's Museum of Modern Art yesterday (Mac Margolis writes).

Mr Major, accompanied by Michael Howard, the environment secretary, and Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima, the Brazilian ambassador to London, spent several minutes admiring the watercolours by the late Margaret Mee, who is considered to be one of the world's finest contemporary botanical artists.

He lingered in particular over her portrait of the Amazon moonflower, which grows on the upper Rio Negro and opens once a year at night-time. Mee, born in Chesham, spent almost 40 years in the Brazilian wilderness, in particular the Amazon region, where she painted orchids and other wildflowers. She died in a car accident in England in 1988.

Mr Major announced the donation by the British government of a Land Rover to the Margaret Mee Foundation which is directed by the artist's widow, Greville Mee. The vehicle will be used by Brazilian scientific institutions to carry out botanical research.

Tokyo is noise capital of the world

Joanna Pitman finds Tokyo full of loudspeakers and amplifiers and hears a man whose throat is so powerful he can be heard a mile away

the Anti-Loudspeaker Noise Movement Group, has been fighting a losing battle for eight years against what he calls noise vandalism. "Japanese people just do not notice the noise; they feel lonely if there are no comforting instructions to follow while doing their daily chores."

Mr Shobo became aware of the problem only after the relative quiet of a year's sabbatical in Britain and he has just launched a campaign to curb the level of election campaign noise in the run-up to the July parliamentary elections to the House of Councillors. He is also fighting to stamp the public address systems used in Tokyo shopping streets. Commuters plodding along to the Underground station might be advised to carry earplugs because loud "public morning music" and advertisements for baby powder com-

pete with fire and police announcements from the public address systems.

Pedestrians never walk into moving lorries by mistake because Japanese lorries are equipped with electronic voices. When the driver shifts into reverse, the voice yell: "This truck is backing now," and when the driver indicates that it is turning left or right, everyone for miles around is likewise informed of the fact.

Some railway stations broadcast birdsong to compete with the real birds near by, and the Underground system talks too, but not in the perfunctory "mind the gap" style of the London Tube. Tokyo trains remind commuters not to stand too close to the edge of the platform, not to forget their umbrellas and their briefcases, and to open the windows if it is a hot day.

Mstislav Rostropovich, 65, the Soviet-born maestro who has been music director of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington for 15 years, will retire in two years.

At that time, he will become lifetime conductor laureate, committing himself to conduct the orchestra for at least four weeks each season, orchestra officials said.

Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet president, urged the world's nuclear powers to ban nuclear weapons tests, saying that the global nuclear threat "for all practical purposes [had] disappeared". His two-page appeal was addressed to President Yeltsin, President Bush, President Mitterrand, John Major and President Yang Shangkun of China.

Senator John Danforth of Missouri defended President Bush's nomination of Donald Alexander, 53, a Missou-

ri businessman, to become the American ambassador to The Netherlands.

President Kravchuk of Ukraine will make an official two-day visit to France next week as President Mitterrand's guest, an Elysée Palace spokesman said.

Oskar Lafontaine, deputy president of Germany's Social Democratic Party, who 18 months ago challenged Helmut Kohl for the German chancellorship, escaped a motion of censure over a money controversy.

The French magazine *Elle* was ordered to pay 100,000 francs (£10,000) to Princess Monique, the French-born wife of Cambodia's Prince Norodom Sihanouk, for libelling her in an article impugning her finances and the morality of her mother.

Defiant Bush puts US voters first

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER
IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush set off for the Earth summit in Rio de Janeiro yesterday vowing to protect the American economy and taxpayer from global environmental initiatives that, he claimed, would do far more harm than good.

In a statement that exuded defiance of hostile world opinion, Mr Bush said that America's environmental record was second to none, that "the day of the open chequebook is over", and that "if the US has to be the only nation to stand against the biodiversity treaty, so be it". It was a statement dictated by election-year politics.

America has undermined two of Rio's principal treaties. The president's aides know he will be the butt of fierce international criticism today and tomorrow. They are seeking to turn that to his advantage by portraying him as a tough leader fighting for American interests abroad. A New York Times poll yesterday indicated that 70 per cent of Americans believe Mr Bush had for the most part only paid lip service to improving the environment and that his Rio strategy was aimed at shoring up his conservative base and his support in key western states that want to exploit their natural resources.

Mr Bush was breaking his journey with a five-hour stop in Panama yesterday, his first visit since ordering the invasion in 1989 that toppled General Manuel Noriega. Officials hoped that the visit would remind American voters of what Mr Bush considers one of the main successes of his first term, but it also triggered violent protests from Panamanians who blame him for the deaths of more than 500 people.

An American soldier was killed and another wounded when gunmen ambushed them on a road 30 miles from Panama City on Wednesday. That evening protesters set fire to the stage where Mr Bush was to address an open-air rally. On Monday, a passing car sprayed gunfire at the entrance to an American air force base. Protesters have blocked roads, lit fires and mounted several demonstrations that the police have broken up with tear gas.

Speaking at Andrews Air Force base before his departure, Mr Bush said environmental protection and economic growth were inseparable and promised to resist initiatives harmful to the US economy. "The US has been a great engine of economic growth, and it is going to stay that way," he said.

Mr Bush added that he expected sustained international pressure in Rio for him to sign the biodiversity treaty protecting the habitats of endangered species, but insisted that he would not. The treaty would not only make wealthy nations liable for Third World bills, but would also discourage technological innovations. "Remove incentives and we will see fewer of the technological advances that help us protect our planet," he said.

America led the world in developing clean technologies, he said. "I will stand up for American interests and the interests of a cleaner environment."

An agony column.

On 29th June in Glasgow, the International Whaling Commission will be pressured to lift the ban on commercial whaling.

Japan, Norway and other whaling nations are arguing that there are enough minke whales in the Southern Hemisphere to justify sending the fleets out again.

If they succeed in lifting the ban thousands of minke whales will die in excruciating pain; for there is no humane way to kill a whale.



Despite refinements over the years, the harpoon remains an unpredictable, inefficient and cruel weapon.

As recently as 1975 an independent observer recorded a particularly messy kill off the coast of South Africa.

On that occasion, seven harpoons were needed to kill just one sperm whale.

Significantly, the survey showed that of 167 sperm whales killed, nearly 54% of them required two or more harpoons to do the job.

1 harpoon	77 whales (46.1%)
2 harpoons	59 whales (35.3%)
3 harpoons	24 whales (14.4%)
4 harpoons	4 whales (2.4%)
5 harpoons	2 whales (1.2%)
7 harpoons	1 whale (0.6%)

Since the whale has a brain and nervous system comparable to those of humans, there is every reason to believe they feel pain as acutely as we do.

If a harpoon fails to explode within the whale's body, the whale is left with severe internal injuries from the barbs attached to the harpoon's head.

Setting up a subsequent strike can take five to seven minutes, so whales frequently die slowly and in great pain.

The RSPCA has been calling attention to whaling cruelty for over thirty years and the figures are overwhelming (in every sense).

A 1985 report recorded the average death times of minke whales caught by Norwegian whalers in the 1981, 1982 and 1983 seasons.

As you can see, the death times were all unacceptable but varied considerably according to where the whale was hit.

Central nervous system	1 min. 40 secs.
Thorax	7 mins. 20 secs.
Abdomen	11 mins. 55 secs.
Musculature	19 mins. 05 secs.

Clearly, such haphazard cruelty would be illegal in an abattoir.

How you can help.

This issue will be decided at the IWC Conference in Glasgow.

Because the British Government is a member of the IWC it can directly influence the decision.

Please write to your MP now stressing your objections to any lifting of the ban. It really will make a difference. Politicians do react to a bulging postbag.

You may also like to attend a whale rally in Glasgow on Sunday, 28th June, the eve of the conference.

If you'd like more information or details of the rally, just send us the coupon below. Please do something.

If enough of us fire off a letter now we can make sure that the harpoons never strike again.

To: RSPCA, Dept AGIC, Causeway, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1HG.
Please send me details of the campaign against whaling.

Name _____

Address _____



Humane beings don't kill whales.

Return of the prodigal don

Matthew d'Ancona on a new academic migration

In the opening pages of David Lodge's *Changing Places*, Philip Swallow, an English lecturer from a provincial British university, sits gleefully on an aeroplane, on his way to a better place: Euphoria State University, a Berkeley-like campus in California. "He looks forward with simple, childlike pleasure to the sunshine," writes Lodge, "ice in his drinks, drinks, parties, cheap tobacco and infinite varieties of ice-cream; to being called 'Professor'." Like thousands before him, Swallow is heading for the west coast's cerebral pleasure-domes.

For years, the brain drain (or "cash dash" as it is less flatteringly known) has been the sackcloth and ashes of British academic life, shameful proof that our society does not value or reward pure intellect. The best and the brightest of each generation have been wooed from their native universities by alluring salaries, the promise of higher social status and the glamour of the American campus.

Yet the weather-vane of opportunity may be about to turn. There are intriguing signs of a contrawind of Brits returning to the safer pastures of their homeland, much to the delight of Oxford and Cambridge colleges which imagined they had lost these prodigals forever.

John Elliott, Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford, who came back from Princeton last year, says that the fierce American recession has diluted the financial attractions of scholarly exile, but that ideological pressures are the heart of the matter. "I think what's happening now is that the trend towards political correctness is going to drive back many English expatriates in the interests of academic integrity."

Five years after Allan Bloom's *The Closing of the American Mind* was published, PC continues to exercise a malign and censorious influence, trapping free thought in its linguistic spider's web. It is a bitter irony that British academics, originally attracted by the intellectual autonomy of the American campus, should now find themselves stifled by its testy narrow-mindedness.

Margaret Bent, a medievalist and newly installed fellow of All Souls College, Oxford, describes her 17 years at Brandeis and Princeton as professionally fruitful but marred latterly by a sense that the new political agenda was confining serious enquiry. "Conservative" has become a stick with which to beat not just politically unfashionable views, but also the quite different category of academic enterprises that do not take an approved stance with respect to critical methodology, race or gender," she says. "Increasing American chauvinism, with culture being constrained by socio-political goals, has left me feeling less part of a broad intellectual community in the US than I did when Eurocentrism was not a dirty word."

All of which is good news for British academic life, which will surely prosper from the return of these disenchanted natives. But could PC chase them back across the ocean and set up its meretricious shop in the British cloister? Probably not. One reason that this absurd and restrictive cult is unlikely to make headway here is that most of its content is old hat. After all, there has been a mild leftist consensus on campuses for nearly three decades. Long before the opprobrious term "Dead White European Male" had reached the universities of Alabama, Terry Eagleton was urging bemused students to get on with the class struggle. And if anything the intellectual initiative has passed to revisionists of the right in recent years, particularly in historical studies.

Add to this the reflex response of the British psyche to anything that smacks of thought-control in the classroom, and the prospects for PC look pretty poor. The antics of far-left education authorities in schools in the early 1980s were pounced upon mercilessly by the tabloid press, so imagine the headlines if a rogue Cambridge don denounced Shakespeare as Eurocentric.

So the homesick Philip Swallow can return, secure in the knowledge that the groves of British academe are as sleepy as when he left. Perhaps even now he is sitting in the departure lounge at LA International, dreaming of dreary provincial England where he will be poorly paid but "academically challenged" no more.

A split has been avoided but Europe is an issue that will continue to dog the Tories, says Peter Riddell

The usual July thunderstorms at Westminster have arrived a month early. Post-Maastricht mugginess has produced cabals in the bars, a not-so-secret meeting of a dozen ministers, the chief whip calling in rebellious new MPs to discuss whether they want a political career, headlines about splits and public declarations of support for government policy by Peter Lilley and Michael Portillo. Far away in Bogota, John Major said there was no crisis and no differences whatever in the cabinet. It was reminiscent of the "Crisis, what crisis?" headlines after James Callaghan's return from a Caribbean summit in the winter of discontent in 1979. Something was obviously up; everyone was testing in public rather too much about how they agreed.

By last night the storm had blown itself out for the time being. No ministers are about to resign or be sacked. But when Mr Major returns tomorrow, he will find that damage has been done to the structure of his European policy, and that cracks he had sought to fill have reopened. It is more than just fractiousness among the boys

when the headmaster is away, compounded by the absence of head boy Douglas Hurd for most of the week in France. The government's real predicament is over strategy, not tactics.

Mr Major has sought to avoid the infighting over Europe which brought down Mrs Thatcher. He has been a party manager in the Harold Wilson class, blurring issues of principle to prevent splits and offering enough to each side to keep them content. He has tried to reconcile two conflicting positions first, that Britain should be "at the heart of Europe", and second that the centralising trend should be reversed. Maastricht epitomised this strategy. Britain played a key role in shaping the treaty, which, for the first time, was in part decentralising. Many Tory MPs were not happy, but they went along before the election.

The Danish vote ten days ago removed these inhibitions. Many MPs no longer believe

there is no realistic hope of renegotiation.

The treaty was a step towards decentralisation, even if the subsidiarity principle is vague. And many of the current complaints against Brussels "nooks and crannies" interference have nothing to do with Maastricht, but derive from implementation of the Single European Act. So the aggravation would continue even if the treaty failed; if anything, Maastricht limits such intervention.

If Mr Hurd is right, the alternative to Maastricht is not a decentralised Europe of nations, but "bad-tempered" confusion holding up enlargement for many years. It is an illusion to pretend that other countries want the EC to become just a free trade area based on a single market and cooperation between governments. Before long, an inner core of nations led by France and Germany would seek to go ahead on their own with a European army

French referendums. If the outcome is unfavourable, the treaty is dead. Until then, Labour's switch to an obstructionist stance bordering on outright opposition prevents any progress in the Commons. So there is no choice but to play it long and hope that everyone will soon be bored — hence the change in tone of the past two days.

Mr Hurd wants to stop France and Germany closing the door on the Danes. He is looking for a declaration outlining specific limits to the commission's role which would satisfy both the Danes and Tory MPs.

The Major-Hurd approach is not quite such wishful thinking as it now looks. One Tory opponent of the treaty said if the rest of the EC could be satisfied, then so would all but a hard core of Tory MPs. But a lot could go wrong both in the rest of Europe and here. The reappointment of M Delors would fuel opposition. Mr Major has been reminded in the past ten days that his shrewd pre-election tactics did not close the book on the Tory party's divisions over Europe, but merely ended one chapter. Europe remains the main fault line within the party.

market will come to provide a fully adequate supply of certain kinds of programming. In television, will provide general entertainment channels and channels with specialist appeal. In radio, it will provide local and national channels focused on particular segments of the popular music market.

Distinctiveness and quality alone will still be insufficient to justify public funding. The further task for the BBC will be to develop services for which there is a clear public need, either because a purely commercial market will not provide them, or because there is a risk it will not provide them; and they will be services to which there is universal access. With these as the hallmarks of our broadcasting, the BBC will be able confidently to proclaim its value to a democratic society, whose citizens depend for the quality of their lives on information, education, innovation and new thinking.

John Reith established the BBC on principles which remain valid into the 1990s and beyond: integrity, independence, the striving for excellence, the provision of the best possible service to the largest number of people and the recognition that broadcasting has a higher purpose than the scramble for high ratings and the profit-margin for investors. The present board of governors, the board of management and all who work for the BBC in whatever capacity are determined that the corporation shall continue to be worthy of its heritage and of the public respect which it has earned over the past sixty years.

It is in this confidence that we prepare for the public debate of the next two years. The governors will make their decisions mindful of their duty under the charter always to put the public interest before the narrower institutional interest of the BBC.

I think this debate should be animated by a consciousness of what the BBC has already contributed to the life of Britain. Let us confidently paraphrase Othello: "We have done the state some service, and they know it." The author is chairman of the BBC.

Proud to be a public service

Marmaduke Hussey insists the BBC stays true to Reith's ideals

We in the BBC are the inheritors of a great institution. But all institutions have to adapt to the changing circumstances in which they live or they become fossilised relics. Given the wide range of broadcasting services which will be readily available to viewers and listeners in this country, it is a public broadcasting organisation like the BBC, as we approach the millennium, an anachronism rather than a necessity? That straight question deserves an answer.

First, I believe that there must be a place in this country for a powerful media influence which is in the pocket of no individual proprietor or interest group. The profound influence of the modern electronic media on opinion, on taste and on the way our democracy works and the shaping of its values is such that any government decision on our future ought to be preceded by extensive public debate.

Those who believe in the market look to it for the provision of diversity. Wiping out public service broadcasting would increase the tendency to uniformity, as we can already see in some other countries. We should certainly not seek to emulate that.

Third, I cannot believe that Britain would wish to diminish so widely admired an aspect of its influence abroad. We did not need the testimonials of Mikhail Gorbachev, Terry Waite, and others, moving as they were, to persuade us that the BBC, through its World Service, promotes an image of this country — an objective and truthful image — which hugely buttresses the work of the diplomatic service and the British Council.

Fourth, in a time of great debate about the future cohesion of the United Kingdom, I believe that a public service broadcasting organisation can play a unique and invaluable role in reflecting locality, region and nation each to itself and each to the others.

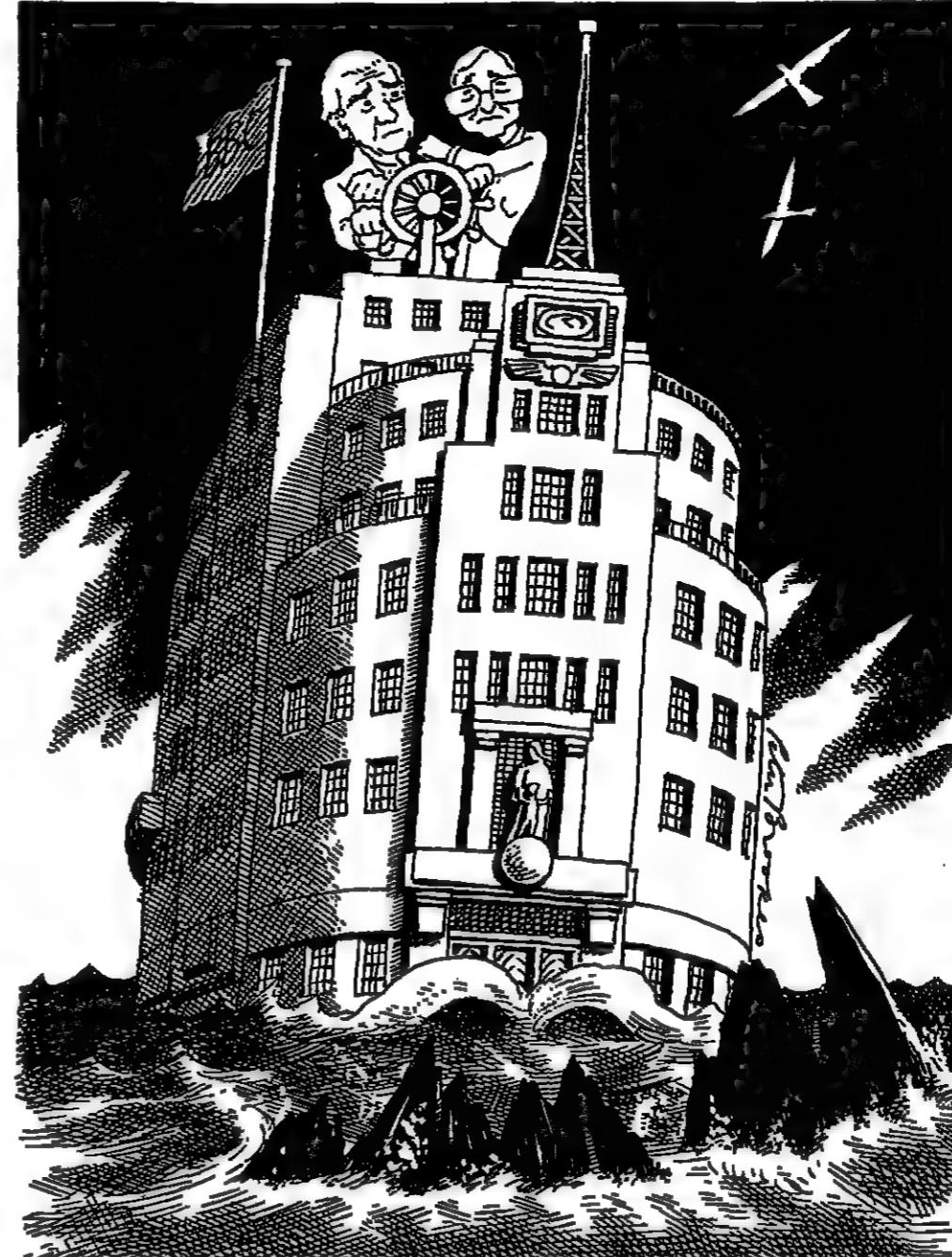
Finally, I believe that the public broadcasting organisation of this country can become the way to set standards, not just

in programme-making, but in the proper use of resources. For this reason, we are developing a range of cost-efficiency indicators which will allow us and others — to measure our performance.

These are the principles at the heart of public service broadcasting. The principles do not change. But the vision, the

promise that we lay before the licence-paying public, must and will change — partly to take account of the new broadcasting world, partly to recall the BBC's founding values.

Both governors and management believe that the BBC's programme services must be thoroughly distinctive. We accept that in due course the



Fly by night

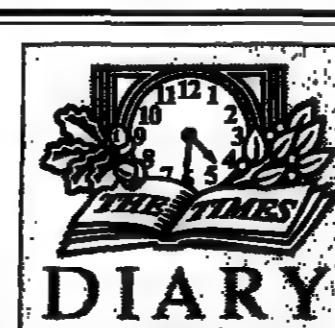
AS HISTORIANS examine with some disappointment the less than revealing Rudolf Hess papers, the man who guarded the Nazi war leader on his first full night in Britain yesterday spoke for the first time in over 50 years of his encounter with the deputy Führer.

Frank Day, now 75, was training to be a Spitfire pilot at RAF Turnhouse when he was relieved of his duties on May 11, 1941, and told that he would spend the night guarding a prisoner. "We were not told who we were guarding or where we were going. When we arrived I immediately realised that the man was Hess. He seemed much younger than I had imagined, and looked a little nervous. There was a man with him carrying a lot of pill bottles, which we presumed had been confiscated from Hess."

Although Hess is known to have had perfect command of English, Day confirms what several historians have long believed: that for periods Hess refused to speak other than in his native tongue. "I could not understand a word he was saying. He only spoke German when he was around us," says Day, who spent the night outside a well-appointed private room in Buchanan castle while his captive paced up and down inside.

The trainee pilot, who went on to become a squadron leader, says he was not much impressed by his prisoner. "Frankly I was much more interested in learning how to fly — but I suppose, thinking back, it was a piece of history."

After guarding the most famous felon to Britain from Germany, Day soon found himself making the return trip. He was shot down and imprisoned in Stalag Luft 3, where he became involved in the



Great Escape. Now retired and living in Sussex, Day spends his time in far more relaxed fashion now, fishing from his boat moored in Chichester harbour.

● President Bush and his entourage arrived in Rio yesterday, but not all the president's men could be put up with their boss in the Sheraton. Due to Bush's late decision to attend, the US consulate in Brazil had an accommodation problem. Most rooms in the city were already let. The answer was the VIP Hotel, one of the so-called "love hotels" which is usually let by the hour rather than the night, has mirrors on the bedroom ceilings, and is given the highest accolade of five bunnies in the Brazilian edition of Playboy.

Prenatal portrait

SALMAN RUSHDIE has launched a search for a painting of his mother, when she was pregnant with the author-to-be in Bombay nearly 50 years ago. The picture, commissioned by Rushdie's father in 1947, may prove even harder to pin down than the author of *The Satanic Verses* himself, for it is known that the canvas was subsequently painted over.

Rushdie announced his search on Wednesday at one of his increasingly frequent forays out of hid-

ing, when he attended a meeting of buyers at W.H. Smith's Swindon headquarters. He was giving them a taster of his next novel, *The Moor's Last Sigh*, due in autumn 1993, in which the tale of the painting, which he heard as a boy from his mother, will loom large. Rushdie's father, according to the author, commissioned the picture from an artist down on his luck, but decided that the finished product was "too sexy". The artist, reluctant to waste the canvas, promptly painted something else over the top, but Rushdie hopes that by highlighting the incident in his new novel he may find someone, somewhere, who knows where the canvas is to be found.

He knows how it feels to be hidden under a coat

ONE of the more unlikely outcomes of the Princess Diana story has been the alliance of John Taylor, the Bishop of St Albans and lord high almoner to the Queen, and Paul Raymond, the sex impresario. The bishop, sitting in the *Newspaper* studio on Monday night, was launching into Andrew Neil, editor of *The Sunday Times*, who was being interviewed on the pavement outside his favourite restaurant, Le Caprice. As he casti-

gated the paper's reporting of the royal marriage story, Raymond was listening to the interview in his Arlington Street flat above the restaurant. Recognising the location, he rushed downstairs barefoot and in no more than a multicoloured dressing-gown began berating Neil with the words: "You are trying to bring down the monarchy."

The BBC minder employed on outside live broadcasts to prevent unseemly incidents, was reduced to strong-arm tactics to keep the heckler out of shot.

An unrepentant Raymond says: "I was so disgusted I decided to run out there and then. You might expect such behaviour in Camden, but not here in SW1. I wanted to tell him what I thought, but unfortunately the BBC man managed to keep me out of the camera's way. But I had my say as he returned to his table inside the restaurant."

● Another minister was present at the now infamous meeting of Tory rebels on Maastricht last week. Stand up, the junior home office minister Peter Lloyd, who has until now managed to keep his name off the published lists of those in attendance. Many of Lloyd's Euro-sceptic colleagues were surprised by his presence. "We thought he was just another grey loyalist," said one. "They should have known him better. He has always been an anti-federalist, and his views have hardened further in recent weeks. As the minister responsible for immigration, he has been arguing bitterly with his EC counterparts over border controls. What is more, exactly 10 years ago, Lloyd resigned his first government appointment as a ministerial PPS in protest at the Bill establishing the Northern Ireland assembly. Do not put it past him to do the same again."



...and moreover

ALAN COREN

You know how it is early in the morning, after you have done the thing with the toothbrush and the razor and you look out the window and it is not raining any more the way it was raining before it stopped, and there is just this mist coming off the sidewalk, now?

I squinted up at the sun which was making the mist do what mists do, and I thought: this is one of the days when you do not start work right away, this is one of the days when you walk up the street, past the old one who is bringing the milk and the young one who is carrying the mail and the tiny one who is pushing newspapers through those holes they have in the doors for pushing newspapers through, and you walk on up to where your street joins the big wide one called Finchley Road, because that is where the place is that is cleaning your trousers, and it is a good day to collect your trousers, before you start work.

But when I got to the big wide one, I noticed that something was not the way it had been before. I noticed this because I had to wait to cross to where the trousers were on account of the big red buses and the heavy trucks that were driving between me and the place with the trousers and I knew it was not a good time to do the running with the traffic. You could get a wound, down there. These are things you learn. I remembered the time in Pamplona, when I

was younger than I am now and had not learned those things, and a cab ran over my suitcase, and the suitcase was never the same, after that. So I waited, which was how I noticed what it was that wasn't the way it was before. There was a new cafe there, where there used to be a grocery.

The cafe was called Papa's. When I finally crossed over to the place where the trousers were I said to the cleaning one: "I see there is a new cafe here."

"Yes," he said. "It has been here a week now. They could not get this stain out. They have done a note. They say it is oil."

"They are right," I said. "It is the oil of the mower. If I ask for the Special Treatment they offer in the window, will it come out?"

The cleaning one shrugged. "Who can say?" he said.

I left the trousers with him anyway, and I crossed the road again, and I looked through the window into Papa's. It had a red tiled floor and round white marble-topped tables and black iron chairs and an electric fan in the ceiling, and I thought: I know, why they have called it Papa's, and I went in and sat down.

A waitress came up. She was one of the slim ones, with the big dark eyes they have, if you are lucky.

"Welcome to Cricklewood," I said. "It is the kind of thing you say, if you have known a lot of women, over the years. "It is

good to see a cafe dedicated to Hemingway."

"I'm sorry?" she said.

I smiled. She was very young.

"The owner of this cafe would understand," I said, but gently.

"Ernest Hemingway was a writer. He was one of the best writers there was. People called him Papa. He used to sit in cafes just like this, in the days before Paris was the way it is now. The cafes were called the Dame and Les Deux Magots and stuff like that, and they had red tiled floors, too, and white marble tables and black iron chairs and electric fans, and Papa would sit there writing in this ring-bound notebook he had, while the little saucers piled up in front of him."

"Does he still do it?" she said.

I looked away. I did not want to tell her it was thirty years since he had put the shotgun in his mouth.

"Ask your boss," I said. "He knows about all that."

She did the thing with the cloth that makes tables shine.

"My boss is my dad," she said.

"That is why we called it Papa's."

I picked up the menu, after that. There were a lot of breakfasts on it.

"I'll have the one with the eggs and the bacon and the tomatoes,"



MEANINGLESS TARGETS

Why should rich countries give poor ones 0.7 per cent of their gross domestic products? Why not 0.5 per cent, 0.2 per cent or, in some cases, 1 per cent? A Martian would find it hard to believe that an obscure debate about completely arbitrary numbers is dominating the biggest meeting ever held of world political leaders, a meeting allegedly called to deal with dire environmental emergencies threatening the very existence of Planet Earth. Yet so it is.

As George Bush, John Major and the rest of the Western diplomatic cavalcade arrive in Rio this week, they will face righteous indignation from the assembled representatives of the developing nations. The outrage will be directed not at America's energy-guzzling or Britain's production of acid rain or water pollution. The poor will be complaining about money, and not just money to pay for environmental improvements or to control populations, or even to feed hundreds of millions of starving people. The issue at Rio has predictably become one of money pure and simple, "other people's money".

That at least seems to be the view of politicians from the developing countries who are demanding a firm commitment from Europe, America and Japan to meeting the United Nations' "official" aid target by the year 2000. This is their minimum price for a new convention by which they would control the environmental consequences of future economic growth. The Bush administration shows no sign of agreeing to this bizarre and unnecessary trade-off. As a result, the Rio conference has degenerated into the kind of anti-American ritual that merely ensures an even lower financial appropriation the next time Congress debates aid.

So what attitude should Britain adopt to the UN target of raising aid to 0.7 per cent of GDP? The answer should be a good deal clearer than the ones given at Rio by Mr Major and Baroness Chalker. Mr Major has said that Britain accepts the target "in principle" and would move towards it "as and when circumstances permit". He would have done better to say openly what he must surely believe, that the target is an arbitrary and meaningless sop to humour Third World leaders at international conferences.

PRINCELY PRESCRIPTION

For several years, the Prince of Wales has been chipping away determinedly at the complacency of the medical profession. Whatever the flaws and inadequacies of the national health service, British doctors are among the best in the world. But their attitude has bred arrogance. The prince has been right to remind doctors that they cannot ignore pressure from their patients to adapt to changing demands.

Last night, he renewed his plea. Addressing the Royal College of General Practitioners, he called for GPs to learn from the best practices of others and to experiment more. The size and style of each general practice, he said, should be designed to suit the population it serves. GPs should be more willing to use the skills of others such as counsellors, osteopaths, physiotherapists, health visitors, complementary therapists and healers. Medical education should be reformed so that general teaching takes place before not after hospital specialism; GPs too inculcated with the bad habits of hospitals, consultants and big-money medicine.

In some areas, the prince's prognosis is puzzling. He criticises the expansion of practices into health centres, like "mini-hospitals". Yet he recommends that GPs hire professionals from other disciplines, a move that is bound to expand the size of their clinics. He pleads for the 24-hour call-out while failing to acknowledge that patients have become far more demanding, ever more ready to summon a doctor at night.

Nonetheless, the prince is right to point to the best practices that might improve the mediocre. The Marylebone Health Centre, of which he is patron, employs counsellors and complementary therapists alongside its

VIRUSES NO JOKE

Computer viruses started life in the mid-1980s as little more than an ingenious student prank. Their very names — the most famous include Stoned, Cascade, Jerusalem and Brain — conveyed mischief rather than malice. They were designed to trick rather than to harm. They are no longer funny. A virus is an encoded series of instructions — the simplest of them can be jotted down on the back of an envelope — which a computer will obey. It will secretly copy itself from a floppy storage disc into the computer memory; it will hide in the computer memory, defying detection by normal memory search operations; it will copy itself onto any other disc used with the system; and in response to trigger such as a particular time and date in the computer's calendar and clock, the virus will start to corrupt any data stored in the computer's memory. Viruses can also be passed computer-to-computer over a telephone modem.

In a society which has become so dependent on computers, the public attitude to viruses is changing. They are being seen as a bizarre form of industrial sabotage instead of a technological version of a practical joke. This is not a field in which young computer buffs should be tempted to experiment. Had this adjustment in attitude already occurred, there would be no question of distributing in Britain a simple handbook for DIY computer viruses, the existence of which *The Times* reports today.

A 14-year-old with only the barest computer knowledge could produce working viruses from the instructions given in the book, it is said. Given the fascination which

ferences, a sign of what is now known as "Rio Fever". Such targets are a throwback to the era of north-south confrontation symbolised by the UN's demands in the mid-1970s for a New International Economic Order. At the heart of those demands stood a global parody of the Western welfare state, with poor countries benefiting as a pseudo-legal right, from ever-growing transfers from the industrialised world.

The world, rich, poor and post-communist, has recently come to accept a new realism in most matters economic. Development and prosperity depend not on aid receipts but on the ability of political economies to harness individual enterprise through market forces. Much of the money transferred from rich countries, far from relieving poverty, has been used to wage wars, support military dictatorships and subsidise corrupt élites. American aid has a particularly bad reputation on this score.

These failures and abuses do not justify a blanket condemnation of all international aid, any more than the disincentive effects of unemployment benefits justify the abolition of the welfare state. But the over-riding test of aid is not input but output. Experience has decisively refuted the idea that amounts of money spent on aid can be used even as a rough proxy for the benefits that accrue to developing economies or their poorest citizens. That Third World leaders want to be given masses of cash is hardly surprising. But instead of complaining about meaningless input targets, they should develop criteria to judge the value of the aid they receive.

The Rio conference was an ideal opportunity to set such targets for environmental improvement, to offer the industrialised countries a strict system of payment by results. It has funked that challenge because it has become an old-fashioned Third World ramp with an attendant rabble of unrepresentative non-governmental organisations. Britain's aid programme has generally been "high quality", focusing on developing markets and hedged about with conditions on human and political rights. Britain need not apologise for failing to meet meaningless targets. Mr Major should be immunised immediately against Rio Fever.

So what attitude should Britain adopt to the UN target of raising aid to 0.7 per cent of GDP? The answer should be a good deal clearer than the ones given at Rio by Mr Major and Baroness Chalker. Mr Major has said that Britain accepts the target "in principle" and would move towards it "as and when circumstances permit".

He would have done better to say openly what he must surely believe, that the target is an arbitrary and meaningless sop to humour Third World leaders at international conferences.

GPs. Drug prescriptions are less than half the national average and hospital referrals have fallen by 30 per cent. Many doctors are smugly about unorthodox treatment because they see it as alternative rather than complementary, as intellectually and commercially threatening. The success of Marylebone shows that these methods can sit happily alongside conventional medicine and can often offer relief where orthodox medicine has failed.

The consumer is certainly behind the prince. A Mintel survey last year found that the market for homeopathic medicines had doubled between 1986 and 1990 to £12 million. Mintel expected a further £3 million increase in 1991 and estimated the entire market for "complementary therapy" to be worth £450 million. Patients who can afford it are voting with their feet. Those who cannot afford it are demanding such treatment, which is usually cheaper than conventional medicine, on the NHS. Now that the health department has sanctioned complementary therapists within general practices, doctors should respond to this demand.

Membership of an integrated Community will have the effect of magnifying the impact we make world-wide. Maastricht should pave the way to bringing about the necessary structural changes. That machinery for doing this can be devised without causing some members to shy by evoking the emotive word federalism is certainly possible; and indeed Maastricht eschews all mention of the dread word.

1. The Maastricht settlement contributes to the creation of "an ever closer union among the peoples of Europe" to which all members are committed by the opening words of the Treaty of Rome.

2. If the ability to act together on any issue that affects the whole Community cannot be resolved regionally it is to be a key product of Maastricht, not only on security and foreign policy but on "internal" issues such as terrorism, drugs or the environment; it is equally important to recognise the corollary of subsidiarity in Maastricht: nothing should be decided at the centre if it can be dealt with at the national level.

3. Under Maastricht the members are committed in accordance with the EMU to promoting and co-operating in the creation of a market economy, including freedom of competition, sound public finance and price stability. It is a fact, if not a cliché, that the economies of Western Europe are interdependent to an extent that renders talk of sovereignty an irrelevance.

4. It is a popular view in the UK that we alone obey the rules whereas the other members of the Community talk clean and play dirty. Under Maastricht there will be procedures for ensuring that rules are observed by penalising those who fail to comply with their obligations.

5. The European Parliament will have greater responsibility, but Maastricht recognises explicitly the essential role of national parliaments.

Certainly there are problems in many countries arising out of Maastricht, but for *The Times* to advocate the unravelling of the Maastricht structure in the maelstrom of the modern world and without apparent regard to its benefits for Britain is to fall short of editorial responsibility.

Yours etc.
NICHOLAS HENDERSON,
6 Fairholt Street, SW7.

June 11.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

The law, the press, and public respect for royal privacy

From Mr Cosmo Russell

Sir, Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights of 1950, which Britain signed and ratified many years ago, states that "everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence". This wording has been interpreted as valid for both sexes.

Since all without reservation have this right it would appear that it has been violated consistently and recently in the case of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

In view of the obvious pain and embarrassment caused not only to the prince and princess, the Queen and the royal children, it would seem strange that redress might not be attained by a British court and a stop put to the current practice.

However, if all else fails, the right and its protection could be referred by anyone to the European Human Rights Commission in Strasbourg. It is vital that the right should be protected, and clear that any further right of freedom of the press could not be sustained in seeking protection.

Yours etc.
COSMO RUSSELL,
Paragon House, Lenham, Kent.
June 8.

From the Editor of

Solicitors Journal

Sir, Since I must assume that Mr Anthony Holden (letter, June 10) is referring to me, may I correct his frequently repeated complaint that the Prince of Wales, through "a Palace spokesman", has some per-

sonal involvement in countering the serialisation of his book in *The Sunday Times*. Perhaps Mr Holden's continuing sensitivity comes from the fact that it was not His Royal Highness but also his fellow journalists who turned on him so roundly?

I am the director of a charity, not a "Palace spokesman", but the issue which worried me in 1988 was that media tit-tat-tat about their private lives obscured the serious work of charities such as our own with which the Prince and Princess of Wales are involved. This, I fear, still holds true today.

Yours faithfully,
TOM SHEBBEAR,
Director,
The Prince's Trust and
the Royal Jubilee Trusts,
8 Bedford Row, WC1.
June 10.

From Lord Glendevon

Sir, It is pointless to blame the press for the present sad state of the royal family, brutally though some papers have behaved towards it. They were handed the situation on a plate.

As one of the oldest privy councillors, I think we should all pray now, not only for the Queen in her appalling dilemma but also that others down the line should be given the strength to pull themselves together for the sake of the throne and the country.

Yours faithfully,
GLENDEVON,
House of Lords.
June 8.

From the Director of the Prince's Trust and the Royal Jubilee Trusts

Sir, Since I must assume that Mr

Anthony Holden (letter, June 10) is referring to me, may I correct his frequently repeated complaint that the Prince of Wales, through "a Palace spokesman", has some per-

sonal involvement in countering the serialisation of his book in *The Sunday Times*. Perhaps Mr Holden's continuing sensitivity comes from the fact that it was not His Royal Highness but also his fellow journalists who turned on him so roundly?

I am the director of a charity, not a "Palace spokesman", but the issue which worried me in 1988 was that media tit-tat-tat about their private lives obscured the serious work of charities such as our own with which the Prince and Princess of Wales are involved. This, I fear, still holds true today.

Yours faithfully,
TOM SHEBBEAR,
Director,
The Prince's Trust and
the Royal Jubilee Trusts,
8 Bedford Row, WC1.
June 10.

From the Minister for Overseas Development

Sir, There are some inaccuracies in

Archbishop Huddleston's letter to you printed on June 6 about the

monarchy in Lesotho.

It is not true that I summoned the former king to my office without warning on the morning of his departure. He wrote to me to request the meeting: my office had tried (daily, for about a week) to arrange the meeting earlier, but were unable to contact him.

I am not pursuing any "hidden agenda" in Lesotho. My aim is simple and open: to assist with the arrangements for free and fair elections now set for November 28, for which we and the Commonwealth

are providing support and to which

the Lesotho government is committed. I am sure that it was right for the former king to remain in London until the Commonwealth secretary-general was able to set up links between him and the head of the present government, Major-General Ramaema. This meeting took place on June 5.

I am pleased to note the agreement that the present election arrangements should be safeguarded, and also that arrangements should be made for the return to Lesotho of the former king before the beginning of August.

Yours faithfully,
LYNDA CHALKER,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
King Charles Street, SW1.

June 9.

From Mr R. E. Gutts

Sir, Anthea Saxon ("Going grey with care", Life & Times, June 1) does not say at what age her drudgery began.

Arthritis is the biggest single cause of

physical disability in the United Kingdom and Arthritis Care is very concerned about the number of carers who begin their career in childhood.

The first round of community care plans under the new NHS and Community Care Act lays great stress on the part which relatives and friends can play in helping people with disabilities to continue to live in their own homes. The plans also make it clear that assistance with domestic work is going to be the very lowest priority.

When, as has recently occurred, a member of Arthritis Care with two daughters, aged 11 and 13, is refused any home care solely on the ground that her family can look after her, one begins to believe that Victorian values have indeed returned.

Yours faithfully,

R. GUTCH (Chief Executive),

Arthritis Care,

18 Stephenson Way, NW1.

June 3.

Blowing up a storm

From Mr Jacob de Vries

Sir, The caption beneath the photograph of Benny Goodman in London in 1980 studying a score for that year's Aldeburgh Festival ("Life & Times", June 3). That is only partly correct. Goodman did not play at the Aldeburgh Festival in 1980 but at the cigarette-sponsored Chamber Music Festival in October of that year at Snape Maltings.

I had signed Goodman up to play Brahms: I still bear the scars. He was due to play one of the clarinet sonatas with Sir Clifford Curzon: the Clarinet Quintet with the Cleveland Quartet and the Clarinet Trio with Clifford Curzon and Pierre Fournier. Additionally he was contracted to play an evening of jazz. He fulfilled only the first part of that contract.

He played with Curzon, refused to play with the Cleveland because

"they shuffled their feet too much".

Yours faithfully,

JACOB DE VRIES,

The Singers' Studio,

13 Shaftesbury Avenue,

London, WC2H 8JL.

June 3.

continue to press for statutory regulation until ordinary people's investments, pensions and savings are properly protected.

Yours faithfully,

SIMON HASKEL

(Executive Chairman),

SIGMUND STERNBERG

(Deputy Chairman),

Labour Finance & Industry Group,

Star House, Grafton Road, NW5.

From Mr Ian Harley

Sir, The Companies Act 1989 per-

mits public companies to issue

summary financial statements and

many companies are now offering

to their shareholders the option of

receiving such summary statements

as an alternative to receiving the

statutory annual report and accounts

comprising two documents: the

directors' report and accounts and

an annual review and summary



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE June 11: The Princess Royal this morning visited Derbyshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Derbyshire (Colonel Peter Hilton).

Her Royal Highness, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, visited Six Limited, 339 Boulton Lane, Alton, and subsequently John Smedley Limited, Lea Mills, Matlock.

The Princess Royal, President, British Olympic Association, this afternoon attended the 1992 British Olympic Pin Ceremony, Mottram Hall Hotel, Mottram St Andrew, Cheshire, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cheshire (Mr William Bromley Davenport).

Her Royal Highness then visited Kershaw's Hospice, Turf Lane, Royton, Oldham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Greater Manchester (Colonel John Timmins).

The Princess Royal subsequently visited the YMCA's Castledfield Hotel and Y Club, Liverpool Road, Castledfield.

Her Royal Highness, President, British Olympic Association, this evening attended the British Olympic Bid Manchester 2000 Gala Dinner at the G-MEX Centre, Manchester.

Mrs Richard Carew Pole was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE June 11: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) today visited the 1st Battalion at Clive Barracks, Tern Hill, Market Drayton.

The Lady Angels Oswald, Sir Alastair Aird and Captain The Hon Edward Dawson-Damer were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE June 11: The Prince of Wales, President, Royal College of General Practitioners, this evening delivered the inaugural John Hunt Memorial Lecture at Church House, Dean's Yard, London SW1.

Miss Belinda Harley was in attendance.

The Princess of Wales today visited Merseyside and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Merseyside (Mr Henry Cotton).

Her Royal Highness visited Queenscourt Hospice, Town Road, Southport, this morning.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, Turning Point, subsequently visited Ashton Special Hospital, Liverpool.

Mrs Fiona Henderson was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE June 10: The Duchess of Kent, Patron of the Spastics Society, this morning visited the Peto Andras Centre, 17 Fitzroy Square, London W1.

Mrs Colin Marsh was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, today received Colonel C. Cooper on assuming command of the 4th Battalion and Lieutenant Colonel A.W. Thornburn on relinquishing the appointment.

His Royal Highness, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, this afternoon attended the Grand Lodge's regular meeting held at Earl's Court, London SW5, as part of the 275th Anniversary celebrations.

This evening, the Duke, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, attended the dinner at Earl's Court following the meeting of good will.

Grand Lodge

Mrs Fiona Henderson and Commander Roger Walker, RN, were in attendance.

JUNE 11 The Duke of Kent, Vice Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, today visited the Hirst Research Centre, East Lane, Wembley, Middlesex.

Captain the Hon Tom Gill was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent this evening attended a Charity Gala Evening given by the British Antique Dealers' Association in aid of the Royal Academy of Arts and the Royal Maudslay Cancer Appeal at the Grosvenor House Hotel and visited the Grosvenor House Antiques Fair, Park Lane, London W1.

Mrs Fiona Henderson was in attendance.

BIRTHDAYS TODAY

The American President celebrates his birthday today.

Professor Michael Adler, venerologist, 53; Mrs Bridget Brophy, author, 63; Mr C.D.L. Clark, publisher and lawyer, 59; Mr John Copley, opera producer, 59; the Earl Cunyngham, 44; Sir Peter Frogatt, former vice-chancellor, The Queen's University, Belfast, 64; Lady Haversham-Terrell, actress, 64; Major-General Sir John Hilditch, 84; Mr Justice Hollings, 74; Mr Peter Jennings, footballer, 47; Mr Peter Jones, actor, 72; Mr Justice Paul Kerr, 40; Lord McCluskey, 63; Dr Ernest Mata, chief executive, Glaxo Holdings, 54; Lord Mayhew, 76; the Very Rev Dr R. Seaby Wright, Minister Emeritus of the Canongate, Edinburgh, 84.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

SERVICE LUNCHEON

The Camerons

Colonel A.R. Kettell presided at a luncheon of The Camerons (Scots Guards) held yesterday at the Caledonian Club.

SERVICE RECEPTION

HQ AFCENT

Air Chief Marshal Sir Anthony Skipton, Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces Central Europe, and the British community yesterday celebrated The Queen's official birthday with a reception, beating retreat and flypast at Headquarters Allied Forces Central Europe, Brussels.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

DEATHS: William Collins, poet, Chichester, 1759; Thomas Arnold, educator, Rugby, 1842; Jimmy Dorsey, bandleader, New York, 1957; John Nicholson Ireland, composer, Washington, D.C., 1962.

MEETING

Fulbright Commission

Mr Edward McBride, Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, presided at the quarterly meeting held yesterday at the National Heart and Lung Institute. Professor Tim Clark, dean of the Institute, Dr Marion Kimberley, administrative dean, and Dr Malcolm Green, Director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, also spoke.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHS: Harriet Martineau, novelist, Norwich, 1802; Charles Kingsley, novelist, Holme, Devon, 1819; Sir Oliver Lodge, physicist, Penkhull, Staffs, 1851; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, prime minister, 1955-57; Windlesham, Durham, 1897; Leon Goossens, oboist, Liverpool, 1897.

OBITUARIES

LEON GRIFFITHS

Leon Griffiths, scriptwriter and creator of Arthur Daley, Soho's favourite entrepreneur, died in London on June 10 aged 64. He was born in Sheffield on February 15, 1928.

MINDER was the nice little earner in the career of Leon Griffiths. It probably claims the same position in the output of Euston Films, its production company. Through it Arthur Daley, in the face and form of George Cole, became a national figure, as indeed did Terry, his "minder", played by Dennis Waterman until he decided to call it a day and the job was passed on to Arthur's young nephew (Gary Webster).

Phrases such as "Er indoor", a reference to Arthur's unseen wife, passed into the national vocabulary. Cockney rhyming slang, such as "Porkies" and "Boracic" took on a new lease of life.

The first episode of *Minder* was transmitted in October 1979. The eighth series is in production at the moment. *Minder* has been sold to some sixty countries abroad and several episodes, brought back to the screen by Thames Television for repeats in this country, have cheered up a boring evening's viewing.

Arthur Daley was born almost by chance. In the late 1970s Leon Griffiths was a scriptwriter with a reasonable track record, but the telephone was not ringing too often with offers of work. He had a script in the bottom drawer about small-time London mobsters, with a minder who was handy with his fists as the central character. His agent thought it was all too serious and suggested a leavening of humour and so Arthur Daley, who began as a subsidiary character, began to take charge. Griffiths was so dispirited by the brevity of his interview with Euston Films after sending in the script that he sought uplift in the nearest pub. While he was drinking Euston bought the treatment.



Minder also changed the career of George Cole, who became inextricably tangled up with his image of snap, brim, trilby, fur collar and perspiring demands for a large VAT (vodka and tonic) at the Winchester Club, presided over by the benevolent Dave. Arthur was later to be found just evading the attentions of the law but fronting television commercials for highly respectable products and services.

The key to the success of *Minder* was not so much the plotting or the violence — the action became noticeably softer when Waterman left the cast — but the language. Griffiths was an expert listener. He spent a good deal of time in afternoon drinking clubs, especially one near

Chalk Farm now, alas, closed, on which the Winchester was based. It was, he claimed, one of the few luxuries allowed to a writer. He put what he heard from characters such as "Be Fair" Bill, who transferred to New York could have stepped straight from the pages of Damon Runyon, to excellent use. Griffiths registered everything and made the vocabulary and dialogue so authentic that outsiders believed him a true Bow Bells cockney.

He was nothing of the sort. He was born in Sheffield, brought up in Glasgow, where his mother was a firm supporter of the Scottish branch of the Communist Party, and got into the film industry when he was 16 through the offices of an aunt with the right union card.

On his own admission he was a very poor soldier during National Service until he found his way to the British Forces Network, where he was encouraged by Cliff Michelmore. By the time he was demobilised the film company for which he had worked had gone into liquidation. Griffiths somehow found a job in the early 1950s on Budapest Radio telling the world in English about Hungary's attractions and achievements; an episode he was later to use in a television play.

He tried his hand at reporting for the *Daily Worker*, even at one time acting as its drama critic. But he fell out of love with communism — and Hungary — during the 1956 uprising and acknowledged that what he really wanted to do was to write play scripts. After spells on the *Evening Standard* and the *Empire News* Griffiths found a temporary home on the television series of *Robin Hood*, starring Richard Greene, which also provided a refuge for a number of other writers of left-wing sympathies, including some escaping McCarthy's attentions in America.

There was a flow, but too often an irregular one, of plays for television of which the best were probably

Dinner at the Sporting Club, a BBC Play for Today which revealed Griffiths' acute ear for sharp talk in rough surroundings, and *A Memory of October*, with Warren Mitchell and Alfred Lynch, which drew on his Hungarian experiences and won a Guild Award.

In 1965 *The Game as Played*, with Denholm Elliott and Bryan Pringle, was staged at the Arts Theatre. He also wrote a handful of film scripts, including two for Robert Aldrich. One of them was a treatment of *No Orchids for Miss Blandish*, which came to the screen as *The Grissom Gang*; the other did not make it.

Then came Arthur Daley, and Leon Griffiths was home after some years of struggle. Some episodes were farmed out to other writers, although *Minder* connoisseurs watched for the reassurance of the originator's name on the credits. The proportion increased with the years because Leon Griffiths' health was beginning to deteriorate.

He had a stroke at the time of the first series, which left him with a speech impediment that required therapy to overcome. He joked that he was too weak to write a suicide note let alone another *Minder* script. But he pulled through, showing

precisely the same resilience to adversity that "Arifur" did himself. Leon Griffiths went on writing, drinking, playing poker (often with Al Alvarez) and invested in part of a once too successful horse named after his most famous character. When the mood took him at parties he gave a celebrated impression of Marlon Brando as Stanley in *Streetcar*. Above all he listened. Leon Griffiths was one London's most gregarious eavesdroppers and in Arthur Daley he created a character worthy of Ben Jonson.

* For the uninitiated Porkies are lies — Pork pies : lies.

Boracic is to be very hard up — Boracic lint : skin.

APPRECIATIONS

Karl Tunberg



IN YOUR obituary (April 8) of the screen writer Karl Tunberg you refer to the judgment of the writing credit for *Ben Hur*. You may be interested to see the full text of the statement issued by the Writers Guild of America:

"Mr William Wyler is engaged in a systematic attack against the writing credits on *Ben Hur* as determined by the Writers Guild of America. The Guild feels that a statement of the facts is necessary."

"Writing credits in dispute are determined by three arbiters drawn from a panel of experienced qualified writers. Each arbiter has no knowledge of the other two. They hold no meetings or conferences. They arrive at their decisions independently and adjudicate the credits solely on the merits of the written material."

This record shows the following:

1. Karl Tunberg is the only writer who has ever written a complete screenplay on *Ben Hur*.

2. Karl Tunberg continued to contribute material throughout the actual filming, and this material is incorporated in the final picture.

3. Karl Tunberg alone did the necessary rewriting during the four months of retakes and added scenes.

Mr Christopher Fry himself was fully informed of the proceedings by the Guild. He has made it absolutely clear that he did not want to protest the decision of the Guild."

Mrs R. Tunberg

Hugh Chapman



HUGH Chapman (obituary, June 8) brought to his work at the Museum of London and the Society of Antiquaries a remarkable combination of commitment to the practice of archaeology, the dissemination of knowledge and management skill. Based on his own specialism in the Roman Empire, especially its system of communications, for which he was awarded his doctorate by the University of London, though not confined to that, his interest in and sympathy for actions past as revealed by study of his material remained extended over all periods.

Added to this were expertise in administration and a cheerful personality that endeared him to his colleagues and the fellowship of the Antiquaries during the tragically short time since his appointment as their general secretary in 1988.

He had shown his flair for museum work as keeper of the prehistoric and Roman periods at the Museum of London, where he became deputy director. He edited the *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, and was its president at the time of his death.

Immediately after his move to the Antiquaries at Burlington House he was faced with a crisis in its publication af-

fairs which he overcame with characteristic aplomb; and he undertook the control of an extensive programme of important developments: re-equipping of the premises, a new publications policy, computerisation of the library. With all this he kept his own scholarship fresh. In private he was the easiest of people to get on with, provided that your standards were up to his or capable of being made so by reasonable argument.

It is a dreadful thing that a miserable accident should have deprived those who knew him — and to know him was to love him — of the prospect of genial, useful collaboration which we had looked forward to enjoying for a long time.

Michael Robbins

SIR GLYN JONES



Sir Glyn Jones, GCMG, MBE, the last governor of Nyasaland and the first governor-general of independent Malawi, died on June 10 aged 84. He was born on January 9, 1908.

GLYN Jones made his sympathy for African advancement crystal clear to segregationist elements of the white colonial establishment in Nyasaland when he resigned as patron of the colony's Zomba Gymkhana Club because of its continued refusal to allow Africans to become members. The ban, he said, was offensive to the dignity of the people whose goodwill was necessary for a happy and peaceful development of the territory.

The year was 1961 when the winds of change had only recently begun blowing through colonial Africa.

Jones had just been promoted from chief secretary of Nyasaland to governor and was to play a key role in the British colony's transition to independence as Malawi. It was a difficult period. Nyasaland was weak and landlocked, one of the poor relations of Britain's imperial past. After four decades living abroad Hastings Banda, a mercurial figure, had been recalled to lead his country and was determined that the new African state should break free from the white-dominated Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. He was also at odds with many of Nyasaland's own politicians and with most of the trends of pan-African opinion and was a far from popular figure in Salisbury, the federal capital.

Easing the strained relations between the federal government and the Banda administration in Zomba, the Nyasaland capital, was the first big task facing Jones and his difficulties were increased by the existence of an entrenched white expatriate population which saw any recognition of the realities of power as "giving in to black nationalism".

In the face of these difficulties Jones managed to set an example to the expatriates and to win the trust of Dr Banda to such an extent that it was the Malawian leader himself who requested that he should be appointed the first governor-general of the newly independent country. His closeness to the Malawian leader did not win him unanimous approval, however. Nyasaland opposition leaders accused him of having become a "private secretary" to Dr Banda and called for his resignation. It was with some sorrow that Jones watched in retirement as the Malawian leader's rule became increasingly dictatorial, but he retained Dr Banda's trust and some years ago put it to use by persuading the increasingly reclusive African leader to agree to participate in a televised interview.

Glyn Smallwood Jones was educated at King's School, Chester, and at St Catherine's Society (as the college then was), Oxford. He entered the Colonial Service in 1931 as a cadet in Northern Rhodesia (later to become Zambia) and spent his whole service there until his transfer to Nyasaland. He served as a district officer from 1933 until 1951

when he became commissioner for native development. Four years later he became provincial commissioner and was appointed secretary for native affairs in 1958. A year later he became minister of native affairs and then, in 1960, chief secretary. He was governor, 1961-64, and then governor-general and commander-in-chief of Malawi, 1964-66. On leaving Malawi he became an adviser on government administration to the prime minister of Lesotho, 1969-71.

In 1972 Glyn Jones was appointed as deputy chairman of the Pearce Commission which was set up by Sir Alec Douglas-Home, the foreign secretary, to determine how far a proposed constitutional settlement for Rhodesia devised by Sir Alec and Ian Smith the Rhodesian

leader, was generally regarded by both blacks and whites in the wake of the Salisbury government's unilateral declaration of independence.

While Lord Piercy was the judicial figurehead, Glyn Jones was the commission's Central Africa expert and, as such, a key figure. It was he who was primarily responsible for ensuring that the commission effectively carried out what became an unprecedented exercise in mass consultation. In eight weeks the commissioners traversed Rhodesia in groups of two and made direct contact with an estimated quarter of a million people. Jones was also centrally involved in assisting Lord Piercy in the drafting of the report which found that the settlement terms were unacceptable and massively rejected.

Eight years later Jones was again called into service in Zimbabwe when he acted as an official observer of the general election that heralded the country's legitimate independence.

Glyn Jones, usually known as "Jones", was an exceptional African administrator. He had great empathy with the local communities among whom he worked and never lost sight of the importance of achieving grass roots support for development programmes. His appointment as governor was unexpected. It was unusual for a chief secretary to become governor of the same territory without a period of service elsewhere and the fact that this happened was an indication of the high regard with which he was held in the colonial service.

He was an extrovert by nature with a practical, down-to-earth approach to life. Small in stature, with a tough and rugged appearance, he was inclined, by diplomatic standards, to look slightly scruffy; his shorts, said one contemporary, were usually slightly too long. Much of his early time in the colonial service was spent living for months at a time under canvas in the Zambezi valley, one of the remotest and most primitive areas of the African bush, which was later to be flooded by the lake formed by the building of the Kariba Dam.

Jones never lost his enthusiasm or his concern for Africa. At the age of 57, before leaving his post as governor-general in 1966, he climbed the 10,000 foot peak of the Mlanje mountain, the setting for scenes in the Laurens Van der Post book *Venture to the Interior*.

In retirement he was an energetic chairman of the Zimbabwe Trust, a charity working to alleviate poverty and to utilise indigenous resources among the rural Africans in Zimbabwe, and he revisited the country regularly.

He was also chairman of the Jairo Jeri Association, a charity for the disabled in Zimbabwe; of the Malawi Church Trust and of the Against Polio in Malawi Trust. From 1968 to 1983 he was the founding chairman of the Friends of Malawi Association.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and his daughter, Elizabeth. His son, Timothy, died in Nyasaland aged 14.

June 12 ON THIS DAY 1937



The trial and execution of Marshal Tukhachevsky (his mother, sister and brothers were also shot) and the other generals was the start of a wholesale purge of the Red Army. Thousands of officers were executed or sent to labour camps. In 1938 Tukhachevsky and his colleagues were rehabilitated when the purge was denounced by Khrushchev.

SOVIET ARMY PURGE

EIGHT GENERALS TO DIE

From Our Own Correspondent

RIGA, JUNE 11

Marshal Tukhachevsky and several of the most important generals of the Red Army, Yakov, Uvarov, Korkin, Eide, Primakov, Putilov, Feldman and Primakov, were tonight sentenced to death by the Supreme Military Court in Moscow on charges of espionage and high treason.

The Court sat in secret. All the prisoners were deprived of their military rank. The law requires that they shall be shot "immediately after pronouncement of the death sentence," and therefore it may be presumed that they have already been shot.

Meetings are being held throughout the country expressing indignation at this "scum of society." This particular expression was sent by the Academy of Sciences to-day to M. Stalin. The Academicians added that they sent their curse on this "scum contemptible scum of society," and requested that the "rough hand of Soviet justice should fall upon their heads and put an end to them."

The first symptom (then hardly noticed), after the arrest of Putilov and Schmidt and a few others in 1936, appeared in March, when Gorky seemed to be dropping into the shade. Then in April the Soviet Press criticized General Korkin for neglecting political studies in the Army. From then on similar criticisms of other officers became frequent, especially in the Kiev military district of the Ukraine.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Hugh Allen, Rector, Old Cleve, to be also Rural Dean of Teignbridge to be also Rural Dean of Exeter (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Robert Banks, Assistant Curate, St John, Forest (Portsmouth) to be Assistant Curate, St Barnabas, Shapwick (Leicester).

The Rev Reginald Bushell, Vicar, St Mary Magdalene, Paddington, to be also Area Dean of Westminster Paddington Deanery (London).

The Rev John Cook, Team Vicar, Teignbridge Hill Team Ministry, to be Rector, Great and Little Halloway (Chelmsford).

The Rev Christopher Courtauld, Vicar, St Paul's, Knightsbridge, to be also Area Dean of Westminster St Margaret Deaneery.

The Rev Terence Low, Team Vicar, Bexhill Hill Team Ministry, to be Rector, Great and Little Halloway (Chelmsford).

The Rev Philip Rahilly, Curate, Worcester, St Barnabas w/ Christ Church to be Vicar, St Barnabas, Worcester, in the Ketterminster Parish Ministry Worcester.

The Rev April Richards, non-

Ancient alloy yields secrets

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

TWO British scholars have solved the mystery of Corinthian Bronze — probably the "door of the temple" which is called "gold" — was also made from it as well as silver and almost above gold. One of the three kinds is very near silver in brilliance and has a high proportion of silver in its composition. In a second alloy the yellow quality of gold predominates.

Copper must, nevertheless, have been the main constituent of the alloys, say Dr D.M. Jacobson, of GEC-Marconi, and Dr M.P. Weitzman, of University College London, because they were called ages bronze, and described in the section of Pliny's book dealing with that metal.

The alloys were used for dishes and ornaments, although Josephus says that the

Leiden Papyrus X, a fourth century text reflecting earlier metallurgical knowledge, gives water appears to be a recipe for its production. Among the ingredients are "molybdenum sulphide" and "copper sulphide". These react with salt to produce sulphuric acid which will dissolve copper but not gold.

The recipe is thus for depletion gilding, whereby an alloy containing gold has other metals partly removed that can lead to a thin film of gold on the surface, which can then be hammered to give the appearance of solid gold. Curiously, the same process, but using plant acids, was invented independently by the Prehispanic inhabitants of Colombia in South America.

Royal Society of Edinburgh

The Royal Society of Edinburgh has awarded the following Research Fellowships for 1992:

Dr Alexander Crichton, Department of Physics and Applied Physics, Strathclyde Univ, for work on "Self assembly using Raman scattering techniques";

Dr Christopher Hamer, Department of Earth Sciences, University College London, for work on "The origin and evolution of the British Isles";

Dr Michael Hickey, Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Banchory, to study the vegetation dynamics of the British Isles;

Dr Sean MacCormac, Edinburgh Univ, to study concurrent engineering in the design of aircraft engines; and</p



BUSINESS 21-27
YOUR OWN
BUSINESS 28
INFOTECH TIMES 29

BUSINESS TIMES

FRIDAY JUNE 12 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

SPORT 30-34

TODAY IN BUSINESS

WAR PAINT



Kalon Group, which supplies own-label paint to do-it-yourself chains and runs Leyland trade centres, has had its £109 million hostile bid for Manders (Holdings) rejected. Page 23

TAX LOSS

Offshore tax havens are becoming less hospitable as the taxmen and police clamp down. Operators in the havens are becoming concerned. Page 25

RAY OF HOPE



John Ritblat, the chairman of British Land Company, sounded a note of optimism in the battered property sector. Page 23

TOMORROW



Desmond Pitcher, chief executive of Littlewoods, reveals a taste for Scouse jargon and a belief that Liverpool is ace – and getting better.

SCAREMONGERS

Salemen are playing on fears of another Maxwell scandal. Sara McConnell reports.

THE POUND

US dollar £1.065 (-0.0120)
German mark 2.9147 (-0.0071)
Exchange Index 927 (down)
Bank of England official base rate 10%

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 2039.5 (-17.8)
FT-SE 100 2614.1 (-22.0)
New York Dow Jones 3327.92 (-15.30)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avg 17709.05 (-33.82)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Rate 13.75%
Society Interbank 9.75% (up 0.25%)
Month end rate 11.11% (up 0.25%)
US Prime Rate 11.5%
Federal Funds 11.5%
London Treasury Bills 9.00% (up 0.25%)
Bank Rate 10.5% (up 0.25%)

CURRENCIES

London 1.51 0.604
Dollar 1.74 0.625
Fring 1.622 0.622
French 1.51 0.622
Swiss 1.51 0.622
Ecu 0.72 0.28
Euro 0.72 0.28
London 1.51 0.604

GOLD

London Fixing
\$1,028.00 per oz \$33,912.40
\$100.00 per troy oz \$1,033.47
New York
Gulf 333.35 3.35 3.35

NORTH SEA OIL

New York
Brent 24.84 24.84 24.84
Detox medley trading price

RETAIL PRICES

BP 130.84 pence 198.13 pence

2X

Buyout group returns to market in one of biggest non-privatisation share issues

MFI managers to share £35m from flotation

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

THE directors and senior staff of MFI Furniture Group are set to share in a £35 million bonanza when the company returns to the stock market next month after a seven-year absence.

Limited details of the £800 million flotation, which will be one of the biggest-ever non-privatisation share issues on the stock market, were unveiled yesterday in a pathfinder prospectus.

MFI, which boasts the Hygena and Schrieber furniture brands, was acquired from Asda in October 1987 in a £715 million leveraged management buyout, then the largest-ever deal of its kind in Europe. Asda had acquired MFI in 1985.

The prospectus shows that the seven executive directors who backed the buyout will each receive bonuses of £1 million, with an additional £300,000 for Derek Hunt, the chairman. Trevor Tellett, the managing director of the retail operations, who joined the main board in 1989, will receive £215,000. In total, £10 million of bonuses are being paid to employees, including managers investing in the buyout.

Managers and directors originally acquired a 3.75 per cent stake in the company for £600,000. On flotation, this stake will increase to 15 per cent, although this will immediately be diluted by the new equity coming into the company. The final size of the management stake after flotation is sensitive to a number of factors, including the pricing of the shares and the amount of debt retained by

the company. However, it is likely to be worth at least £25 million. About three quarters of that stake will be held by the seven original director participants in the buyout, six of whom put £50,000 into the deal, £60,000 at the time of the buyout and £20,000 at a refinancing in 1989. Mr Hunt put £100,000 of his own money into the company.

If bonuses are included in

the calculation, the managers may achieve a near-fifty-fold return on their investment. The return was originally planned to be far greater, with the management taking twice as big a stake as they will actually achieve. However, the sharp downturn in consumer spending that followed the buyout made nonsense of the package of incentives built into the deal. It was renegotiated at the time of the refinancing.

City reaction to the

prospectus was favourable, although the flotation price will not be published until July 2.

The management team is highly regarded for having transformed MFI's fortunes at a time when the economic backdrop could not have been more hostile. "These guys have been to hell and back," said Nick Bubb, an analyst at Morgan Stanley.

MFI has been highly profitable at the trading level

since the buyout, although interest and debt repayments meant a bottom-line loss was reported in 1990 and 1991. Since 1987, MFI has paid more than £260 million of interest and funded capital investment of more than £250 million. It is Britain's biggest furniture retailer with

Comment, page 25

11 per cent of the market. Mr Hunt said the flotation "will give us the flexibility to press forward with our plans for development of the business and to take advantage of economic recovery." He added: "We have probably picked exactly the right time for the flotation." A trading statement included with the prospectus said that underlying sales in the current year were in line with last year.

About a quarter of the

shares will be available to the public; the remainder will be placed with institutions and UK financial intermediaries.

The flotation will raise about £546 million, which will be used to repay the borrowings taken on to finance the

buyout. Further shares will be sold by existing investors, including a 25 per cent stake in the company retained by Asda. Institutional investors, which were led by Charterhouse, Cincorp, CIN and Globe, are expected to hold on to about half their holdings. The managers are entitled to sell up to 20 per cent of their holdings.

A pro-forma profit and loss account shows profit before tax of £67.1 million for the year to April 25 after adjusting for the effects of debt repayment. The actual profit figure was £8.6 million after interest of £64.2 million. Independent analysis suggested the company would be floated on a multiple of about 19 times historic earnings, valuing MFI at about £900 million. The pro-forma balance sheet shows gearing of about 100 per cent and interest cover of about ten times.

Comment, page 25



Four managers who will profit: from left, David Brock, John Randall, Derek Hunt and John O'Connell

Senior Lloyd's name attacks underwriting standards

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

A LEADING representative of moderate opinion among the 22,500 Lloyd's names launched a stinging attack on poor underwriting standards in the market and gave warning that names' willingness to support Lloyd's was close to breaking point.

Mark Farrer, outgoing chairman of the Association of Lloyd's Members and a former member of the Council of Lloyd's, delivered a wide-ranging critique of the management of the Lloyd's market in the association's annual report.

He wrote: "It is clear that an uncomfortably large minority [of underwriters] have

not shown themselves equal to the task of underwriting successfully in today's conditions". These represented "a heavy drag on the market" and would do so "for many years to come".

Mr Farrer, who is a partner in Farrer & Co, the Queen's solicitors, also predicted that the results of the panel of enquiry into the biggest syndicate losses "will point inexorably towards regulatory failures and the consequent need for new bylaws with teeth to prevent any reoccurrence of the incompetence disclosed".

There was "harmful and destructive perception" outside the market, commented

Mr Farrer, "that Lloyd's is a great deal better at enforcing its regulations against names who may have lost everything than enforcing proper standards of trading in the market against those who have subsequently proved to have lost them everything".

The wave of litigation resulting from the losses could have been avoided by the development of an internal arbitration system, Mr Farrer said. "I record with great regret the constant opposition to this development, more or less throughout the term of my service on the Council, for reasons that I could never find convincing."

Mr Farrer was also critical of the "hard-nosed" approach adopted by Dr Mary Archer's hardship committee towards delinquent names. He called on Lloyd's "to take a more practical, albeit more expensive, approach to these problems".

He added: "There is little to be gained from the hard-nosed policy that was originally advertised if names are not availing themselves of this facility because it offers them nothing."

In a bleak warning on

prospects, Mr Farrer said names' willingness to support Lloyd's in meaningful numbers was "uncomfortably close to the reasonable level of endurance".

His criticisms will carry

more weight than those expressed by some embittered names because it comes from an organisation seen as generally supportive of the leadership of Lloyd's.

The association has been

criticised for giving its approval to measures announced by Lloyd's without canvassing its 9,000 members.

Some names have attacked it for coming out in

favour of the £500 million central fund levy announced by Lloyd's last week.

Mr Farrer stands down

from the association's committee this year and will be succeeded by Neil Shaw,

chairman of Tate & Lyle.

Tempus, page 22

Letter, page 25

Shares dip after Pilkington cuts dividend

BY MICHAEL TATE
CITY EDITOR



Going round in circles: Sir Antony Pilkington sees no improvement

been uncovered, but that, given the depth and length of the recession, it was wise to cut back.

Shares in Pilkington dipped 4p to 124p, reflecting the market's disappointment at the size of the exceptional items, of which £22 million

were redundancy and restructuring costs.

Sir Antony said group borrowings fell to £659 million £733 million by the year end, reducing gearing to 56 per cent.

European glass profits fell by £60 million to £67.4 mil-

lion, with the UK responsible for £36 million of the fall.

Germany, the group's biggest market in Europe, was better, due to the strong car industry and the rebuilding of eastern Germany.

Three years ago, it sold a fountain

made of crystal, gold and semi-precious stones, for more than £500,000. A diamond and emerald jeweller's set is currently on offer at £2.25 million.

Pilkingtons of Switzerland made a profit of £55.7 million before tax and exceptional items last year on sales of £1.7 million.

The previous year's profit came to £2.5 million.

The purchase from Ratners — for the equivalent of about 24.2 million Marks and Spencer prawn sandwiches — may be seen as poetic justice.

Ratners was in the running for

Mappin & Webb before it finally fell to

Asprey for £75 million in shares in

August 1990.

Asprey gave warning that pre-tax losses last year are likely to exceed £120 million. The news placed further pressure on Mr McAdam and led to renewed speculation that Mr

McAdam, who remains chief executive, may be forced to step down.

Asprey now appears to have the market for jewellers, watches and expensive trinkets well covered.

While Watches of Switzerland is a comparatively prestigious operation, with prices starting at about £45 and ranging up to £9,000 or so for a gold Rolex Oyster, Asprey frequently scales new heights of luxury.

Three years ago, it sold a fountain

made of crystal, gold and semi-precious

stones, for more than £500,000. A dia-

mond and emerald jeweller's set is cur-

rently on offer at £2.25 million.

Ratners was in the running for

Mappin & Webb before it finally fell to

Asprey for £75 million in shares in

August 1990.

TENDER OFFER
by John East & Partners Limited jointly on behalf of
PANTHER SECURITIES PLC AND MR A. S. PERLOFF
to acquire at 67p per share 739,184 Ordinary Shares in
ETONBROOK PROPERTIES PLC

The terms of the Tender Offer, inter alia, are as follows:

1. Etonbrook shares may be tendered under the Tender Offer at a price of 67p per share. Subject to paragraph 3, below, all tenders are irrevocable. Holders of Etonbrook shares may tender all or part of their holdings.

2. The Tender Offer is conditional on the receipt of tenders totalling not less than 38,306 Etonbrook shares, representing 1% of the voting rights of Etonbrook. Accordingly, if tenders totalling less than 38,306 Etonbrook shares are received, the Tender Offer will be void.

3. The Tender Offer will close at 3.30 pm on Thursday, 25th June, 1992.

Forms of Tender, available together with the Tender Offer documents from the addresses given below, duly completed and together with the relevant share certificate(s) and/or other documents of title should be forwarded to Scottish Clearing Co-operative Limited, Brookley House, Newlands Drive, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS21 2UL, so as to arrive not later than 3.30 pm on 25th June, 1992. Cheques in respect of consideration due under the Tender Offer will be despatched by post on 6th July, 1992 or, if later, within 14 days of receipt of the relevant share certificate(s).

Panther Securities PLC and Mr Perloff do not currently hold any Etonbrook shares. However, Panther plc currently holds 310,500 and 100

Staveley faces more price control

By RODNEY HOBSON

THE reward for holding down the price of salt is even tighter price control. Staveley, the minerals and measuring equipment company has faced another price control.

Staveley, whose Cerebos and Saxa brands have 53 per cent of the British salt market, and ICI with 47 per cent, agreed with the trade and industry department seven years ago to restrict price increases to the rise in production costs minus 1 percentage point.

Competition between the two producers has, however, kept the price lower. Now Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary, has formalised the position by imposing a new formula of 2 percentage points below production cost rises from this year.

Brian Kent, the Staveley chairman, said: "It's a bit tough. We have done nothing wrong. This will not help competition because it will be harder for any new competitor to move in."

"Our prices are lower than in Europe and our plant in Cheshire is the most efficient in the world. We cannot go on becoming more efficient for ever."

Staveley has tried to compensate by moving into other areas, such as industrial measuring.

Weigh Tronix, the American subsidiary, has had a good year but Howe Richardson, which was purchased in 1990, was already in the process of moving plants in Cologne and New Jersey. The cost has caused the first fall in pre-tax profits at Staveley for nine years.

Mr Kent says: "We think the worst is over. We have modern machinery and have moved from manual to computer control."

Staveley made pre-tax profits of £24.2 million in the year to April 4, down from £28 million. The final dividend of 5.9p makes an unchanged total of 8.2p on shares increased by a one-for-five rights issue last July. The shares gained 6p to 194p.

Pilkington reflects on recession

COMPANIES in Pilkington's position can afford to make few enemies, so it was odd that it should risk upsetting the market with its treatment of its reorganisation costs as an "exceptional" and the inclusion of a hitherto-unmentioned £14 million bad debt in America.

That said, however, the board has surely been as honest as it can be about the short-term prospects, particularly with regard to the dividend. Shareholders are left in no doubt that the 43 per cent cut this time reduces the payment to a level that the board thinks may have to prevail for some time.

The causes of Pilkington's plight are well documented. As supplier to the two industries that are perhaps the most sensitive to economic conditions — construction and motors — it was in trouble enough from the current recession without its coincidence with some unavoidable heavy expenditure on its float glass plant.

Float prices 25 per cent down in America and Europe over the 18 months to September last year, have at least stabilised, but there is still no sign of any recovery in business. If anything, the evidence is that, after a brighter start to the year, orders have fallen away again in April and May.

Meanwhile, by its own admission, the company has done everything it can in terms of slimming and trimming.

It would clearly be wrong at this stage to look for any improvement this year, and the group will rely again on what little fat it retains from its better years to finance part of the dividend payment. Exceptionals should not amount to more than £10 million next time, but it is still difficult to see earnings reaching 6p a share.

Capital spending will be restricted to £150 million, but there can be little hope of denting the 56 per cent net gearing figure. All of this is in the 129p share price, although the earnings multiple remains meaningless. The shares are a gamble on the timing of economic recovery, remembering always that



Taking a different path: Graham Hawker, left, with John Elfed Jones of Welsh Water

Pilkington responds late to changes in economic conditions — windows are among the last fittings made to new houses. At least the downside must now be limited.

Johnson Matthey

JOHNSON Matthey is

guarded and cautious about prospects while world economies still limp along. But the market remains enthusiastic that the precious metals group will do really well this financial year.

With the rewards of the first two of its three-year rationalisation programme now coming through, and now that the group headcount is sharply lower and costs under control, it only needs a modest improvement in European and American economies to make JM's profits really sing.

The pre-tax outcome at £66.3 million in the year to end March, against £66.1 million, after a year in which weaker platinum and rhodium prices knocked at least

£11 million off profits, was no mean achievement. Profits were aided by a net £1.4 million boost as the product of a £6.4 million (£5.3 million) gain from sales of surplus rhodium stocks — made when that precious metal price was at peak levels — which were all but offset by redundancy/ rationalisation costs totalling £5 million. Neither item is likely to appear this year.

JM's profit excitement clearly lies with catalytic systems as Europe and America increasingly fight the pollution battle, and a profit centre waiting to happen lies in JM's grasp in diesel engines. Fuel cells are another profit potential on the horizon.

If

JM's

management touch

in

1992

on

its

colour

and

print

division

(where

operating

profits

jumped

by

47

per

cent)

is

applied

to

the

materials

technology

division

(where

profits

fell

11

per

cent),

then

there

will

be

a

stronger

1993

outcome

here

as

well.

A restructuring exercise within Europe is already in progress. Meanwhile, the division's biomedic interests, that include anti-cancer products

made further headway. Planned investment for the years ahead include new facilities in the Far East, notably in Japan, and on the autocatalyst front £25 million of investment in South Africa, Britain and America.

Though JM's share price continues to be tickled every now and again by the guessing game about what Charter Consolidated might or might not do with its 38 per cent stake, JM's pre-tax profits this year should easily reach £70 million.

At 42.5p, up 10p, JM shares trade on 16.9 times prospective earnings, and at a premium to the market. The shares, however, are worth holding.

Welsh Water

NOBODY could accuse John

Elfed Jones, chairman of Welsh Water, of being entirely

predictable. While nine of the privatised water groups moved predictably along their chosen or pre-destined paths, Welsh has been different.

First, it sprang a raid on

South Wales Electricity, only

to find the drawbridge closed.

At 38.4p (3.65p)

lifts the total to 5.36p (5.1p).

Oxford Instruments margins squeezed

THE shares in Oxford Instruments, the advanced instrumentation company, fell from 254p to 229p on the news of a fall in pre-tax profits from £1.207 million to £8.56 million in the year to the end of March. Turnover fell from £108.46 million to £103.33 million, but operating profits were more than halved, from £8.71 million to £3.09 million, reflecting the erosion of margins. Earnings per share fell from 16.8p to 14.7p, but the final dividend is raised from 2.8p to 2.9p, making 4.3p for the year, against 4.15p.

Peter Williams, the chairman and chief executive, said that difficult trading conditions persisted throughout the year, with the recession affecting the main markets. New orders fell 17 per cent to about £95 million, but demand appears to have stabilised at present levels. Mr Williams said that short-term indicators suggested a recovery in orders may be possible during the current financial year, although the benefits of any improvement may be delayed until the following year because of long product lead times.

Penna falls into loss

PENNA, the holding company for Sanders & Sidney, the outplacement consultancy, plunged to a pre-tax loss of £6.937 in the year to end March from a profit of £2.08 million in the previous period. The final dividend has been cut to 1p (7.8p) a share, making a total of 2p (11.5p). There is a loss per share of 1.6p compared with earnings per share of 28.7p last time. Penna was the best-performing US stock in 1990. The shares rose 12p to 135p yesterday.

Increases at Blick

BICK, the Swindon time-recording and communications group, lifted pre-tax profits 33 per cent to £3.66 million in the six months to the end of March. Turnover increased to £14.7 million (£10.7 million). Earnings per share rose 21 per cent to 11.52p. The interim dividend is 3p, up 15 per cent. Cash balances increased to £9.9 million (£7.4 million), helped by a £3.7 million share placing in March. Future rentals under contract rose 30 per cent to £67.5 million.

Scapa edges up

SCAPA Group, the industrial products manufacturer, lifted pre-tax profits to £44.66 million (£42.27 million) in the year to the end of March. The group benefited from a reduced interest charge of £1.78 million (£6.1 million), following last year's £55.6 million rights issue. Turnover rose to £330.2 million (£290.9 million). Earnings per share fell to 13.2p (15.2p), reflecting the increased equity base, but a final dividend of 3.84p (3.65p) lifts the total to 5.36p (5.1p).

Whitecroft warns

SHARES in Whitecroft fell from 131p to 90p after the lighting, textiles and building products manufacturer said it would cut the total dividend from 10p a share to 4p for the year to end March to reflect a sharp decline in the value of its property portfolio. A final dividend of 0.7p (5.4p) will be paid. The company said full-year profits would be at the low end of expectations and there would be an extraordinary charge against the property portfolio.

Cater Allen improves

CATER Allen, a discount house that pulled out of the gilts market last year, marginally increased after-tax profits to £8.1 million for the year to April 30. Last year's £2.7 million loss on gilts trading was eliminated but Lloyd's agency operations turned in interim losses of £473,000 (£1.9 million profit). Financial futures broking also made a small loss. The final dividend has been increased from 19p to 20p, making a 26p (25p) payout for the year.

OFT milk pact agreed

LEADING milk retailers have renewed undertakings to the Office of Fair Trading not to fix the price of products sold by milk roundsmen. They have also agreed that there will be no collusion in tendering for the supply of milk. The retailers are Clifford Foods, CWS, Co-operative Retail Services, Dale Farm Dairy Group, Heids Dairies, Unigate Dairies and William Stevenson. The new undertakings follow changes of ownership of milk retailers and wholesalers.

Borrowing costs slow Salvesen

By JON ASHWORTH

A FIVEFOLD rise in interest charges has taken the shine off profits at Christian Salvesen, the distribution, manufacturing and specialist hire company.

Profits before tax in the year to end-March marked time at £67.2 million (£66.6 million) as interest charges soared to £6.5 million (£1.2 million).

Borrowings rose sharply on the back of a £100 million capital investment programme.

Turnover rose to £484.3 million (£422.7 million), while a 4.1p final dividend (3.65p) makes 7p payout (6.6p) for the year.

An extraordinary charge of £19.9 million has been made relating to the withdrawal from distribution for manufacturers in Germany.

Chris Masters, chief executive, said the new year had started reasonably well despite depressed economic conditions. Christian Salvesen is best known in the UK as a distributor of frozen and fresh food for retailers such as J Sainsbury and Marks and Spencer. Salvesen freezes about a third of the UK's green vegetables. The company has won a two-year contract to distribute Häagen-Dazs ice cream and a contract with Agfa-Gevaert to distribute electronic and photographic goods.

Salvesen's Brick was affected by lower prices. The specialist hire division increased trading profit to £27 million (£22.3 million) due to the strength of the Aggreko power generator operation. Aggreko makes and hires out generators in Europe, America and the Far East and is set for strong growth this year.

BBA buys Butler Aviation

By PHILIP PANGALOS

BBA, the automotive and aviation group, is expanding its corporate aircraft terminals and facilities in America by acquiring Butler Aviation International for at least \$62.5 million in shares and cash.

The purchase of Butler, which is based in Dallas, Texas, is being made by Page Avjet Airport Services, BBA's American subsidiary. Under the terms of the deal, Butler Aviation, Butler's parent, will receive a 32 per cent shareholding in Page as well as \$20 million in cash.

The activities of Page and Butler are similar, with the two operations highly complementary. The acquisition will increase Page's American operations from 20 to 18 airports to 42 in 38 airports.

On a pro-forma basis, the enlarged group would have had sales of about \$260 million in the year to December 31. BBA expects the deal to give the enlarged company "substantial operational and financial synergies".

John White, BBA's managing director, said: "The Butler acquisition demonstrates the planned expansion of our airport services in the United States and it makes us the industry leader in this market. It is in line with our strategy to build and balance BBA's businesses both geographically and by sector."

Page made a pre-tax profit of \$10.9 million in the year to December 31; Butler made a taxable profit of \$2.8 million in the same period, on sales of \$101 million and net assets of \$37.4 million. BBA expects substantial cost savings, and a positive impact on future earnings.

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS



GOVERNMENT OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

The Government of the Cayman Islands has a vacancy for the position of:

AUDITOR GENERAL

The Cayman Islands are a British Crown colony in the West Indies located 450 miles south of Miami, Florida. A successful offshore financial centre and popular tourist destination with a population of 28,000, they enjoy one of the highest living standards in the Caribbean.

The duties and powers of the Auditor General are prescribed in the Public Finance and Audit Law. In particular it is the duty of the Auditor General to examine, enquire into and audit the accounts of the Accountant General and of other accounting officers in respect of public monies, stamps, securities, stores and any other public property.

The Auditor General, who is head of the Cayman Islands Audit Office, is directly responsible to the Governor for the auditing of all Government accounts.

Applicants should hold a relevant professional qualification and should have at least 10 years experience, including a period at senior administration level.

Creditors oppose BCCI deal

By OUR CITY STAFF

CREDITORS of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International continued to voice strong opposition in the High Court to the \$1,700 million deal negotiated on their behalf by the bank's liquidators with the Abu Dhabi government.

The liquidators are asking the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Donald Nichols, to allow the deal to be offered to creditors. The judge will give his decision this morning.

The deal, promising an estimated 30-40 per cent return for creditors, involves the injection of \$1,700 million by Abu Dhabi, the majority shareholder. If it is rejected, the liquidators say the only alternative would be litigation lasting to the end of the century.

The BCCI UK creditors' committee has already voted by seven-to-one to recommend refusal and is opposing the liquidator's application for the court to sanction the deal.

The committee says Abu Dhabi's offer should equal the \$4,000 million promised by Abu Dhabi in an unsuccessful attempt to persuade banking regulators not to recognise BCCI's banking licences last July.

A number of other creditors, some acting in person, gave their backing to the committee's stance yesterday and its suggestion that a meeting of creditors should be called to canvas opinion.

Replying on behalf of the liquidators, Michael Crystal QC said Touche Ross understood and appreciated the concerns voiced by creditors. For the past 11 months since the closure of BCCI, the liquidators had been trying to rescue what they could for creditors, he said.

Funds grow pessimistic on BAe

JOHN Cahill has admitted that he faces an uphill task in his new role as the chairman of British Aerospace. The shares in British Aerospace tumbled 13p to 319p yesterday as City fund managers came round to the view that the prospects for BAe are still looking grim and that the road to recovery will be a long one.

Mr Cahill made his views known to 50 selected fund managers at a presentation arranged by Hoare Govett, the company's broker. It appears that the new chairman avoided talking specifically about numbers and instead gave a run-down of the current trading situation as he saw it after only a few weeks in the chair.

Fund managers left the meeting in a gloomy mood. The civil aviation side of BAe remains in the grip of recession, with few signs of recovery. The property slump means that BAe's subsidiary, Arlington, has been unable to make the disposals required and the future of Rover remains uncertain. The group's dividend policy has yet to be discussed by the new management.

Mr Cahill's talk preceded the news that 720 workers in the missile division are to lose their jobs. BAe blames a lack of export orders. This brings the total number of jobs shed by BAe this year to 3,000.

A new finance director is due to join the group within the next few weeks and it is expected that he will take a cautious view of operations and that a fresh round of profit downgrades will be made by analysts.

Chris Avery, an analyst at Smith New Court, the broker, says the civil aircraft side has its fair share of problems, but does not believe they are insurmountable. He remains a

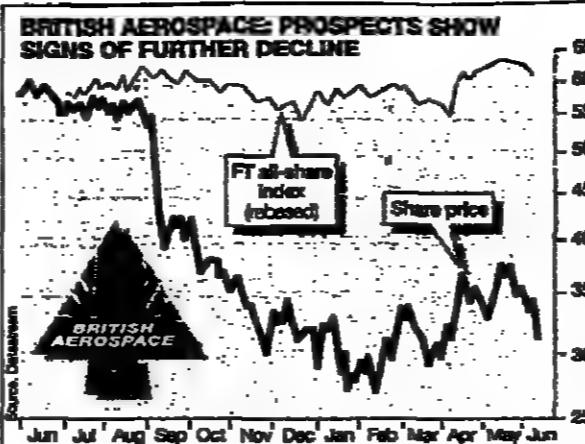
buyer of the shares for the long-term.

Meanwhile, another overnight setback on Wall Street left share prices in London rising after the FTSE 100 index closed just above its worst level of the day, with a fall of 22 points at 2,614.1 in thin, scrappy trading. The equity market now stands just 1% per cent above the level it was at on the day after the general election in April. Fund managers have let prices drift lower, worried by the absence of an economic recovery and perturbed by the long list of fundraising exercises currently in the pipeline, totalling about £17.5 billion.

The turnover figure of almost 600 million shares was boosted in late trading by a large programme trade that saw a number of lines of stock passing through the market. These included 1.3 million Racal Electronics, down 13p to 67p, 185,000 BET, 6p

London and Manchester announced this week that it would use the surpluses on its life business to enhance the profit and loss account. County NatWest WoodMac recommends Britannia, 1p dearer at 956p. Prudential, 5p lower at 253p, and United Friendly, 5p easier at 414p.

cheaper at 146p, 377,000 British Gas unchanged at 252p, 289,000 Grand Metropolitan, 4p better at 483p, 419,000 National Westminster Bank, 5p off at 339p, 1 million BT, steady at 350p, 553,000 Asda, 4p better at 344p, 5.3 million Hanson, 4p lower at 219p, and 214,000 Bass, 6p easier at 587p. A line of 9 million shares in British Steel passed through the market at 71p.



The price finished 2½p lower at 37½p.

Glen was an early casualty, falling 27p to 711p as County NatWest WoodMac, the broker, referred to a report that claimed that some patients being administered with Imigran, the group's anti-migraine drug, had complained of chest pains. Dealers said that the story is not a new one, but in the current thin conditions, it was enough to hit the share price.

Welcome continued to lose ground before its worldwide share float with the price dropping 17p to 935p. The price has dropped from around the £11.00 level since the Wellcome Foundation announced plans to reduce its 74 per cent holding below the 50 per cent level.

The thin trading conditions also took their toll on English China Clays, which touched 526p before rallying to finish 13p to lower at 533p amid false claims that the company's broker, BZW, had again reduced its profits forecast. In fact BZW had only confirmed its earlier estimate of £122 million which is at the lower end of expectations.

Manders, the paint maker, announced it had failed to deliver satisfactory results. If the bid succeeds, Kalon intends to close Manders factory and head office at Bingley resulting in a 20 per cent cut in its workforce.

Full-year figures from Pilkington, Britain's biggest glass-maker, turned out to be worse than even the most gloomy City forecasts. The shares fell 3p to 129p. Pre-tax

surged 54p to 291p on learning of the surprise £108 million all-paper bid from its rival Kalon. 2½p lower at 108p. Kalon is offering eight of its own shares for every three Manders. The deal values Manders at around 295p a share.

The bid was immediately rejected by Manders. Kalon criticised the Manders man-

agement claiming it had failed to deliver satisfactory results. If the bid succeeds, Kalon intends to close Manders factory and head office at Bingley resulting in a 20 per cent cut in its workforce.

Pilkington, Britain's biggest glass-maker, turned out to be worse than even the most gloomy City forecasts. The shares fell 3p to 129p. Pre-tax

losses fell from £151.6 million to £77 million compared with analysts' estimates ranging from £85 million to £100 million. The final dividend has also been cut from 6p to 3.07p. The figures were struck after exceptional costs totalling £22 million and provisions of £14 million relating to the collapse of one of its customers in the US. The chairman, Sir Antony Pilkington, said there were no signs of recovery.

Better than expected full-year figures from Welsh Metal and a near 10 per cent rise in the dividend received scant reward from the market which marked the shares 16p lower at 451p. Falls were also seen in Anglo. 2p to 427p. Northumbrian, 3p to 464p. Southern, 6p to 402p. South West, 2p to 407p. Wesser, 5p to 500p and Yorkshire, 2p to 455p.

Talk of a downgrading by Standard & Poor's, the rating agency, of the high street banks left them in the doldrums. Barclays fell 5p to 349p. Standard Chartered 5p to 466p and Lloyds 8p to 425p. Midland Bank also fell 6p to 422p despite further heavy turnover in the shares with 42 million as investors continued to weigh up prospects for the proposed take-over by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

British Airways recovered from Wednesday's shake-out stemming from an intensification of the transatlantic airfares war with the group confirming that it intends to follow American airlines and cut prices. The shares rose 7p to 275p. BAA, which has enjoyed seeing investors switch to its shares from British Airways, added another 2p to 697p after reporting a rise in the number of passengers handled.

MICHAEL CLARK

Exports of cars still dropping

Exports of cars continued to slide last month (Kevin Eason writes). Vehicles for export fell by more than 28 per cent from £5,607 in May, 1991, to 39,000, according to provisional statistics from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Total car production last month was 105,332, a fall of 5.9 per cent compared with last May, but commercial vehicles registered a rise in output of 30.29 per cent.

Eldridge recovers

Eldridge, Poppe & Co., the brewer, returned to profit in the six months to the end of March, earning £71,000 before £118,000 loss. Interim dividend is increased from 0.875p to 1.31p.

Rowe Evans sells

Rowe Evans Investments, the plantations group, has sold its Malaysian oil palm and rubber interests for £4.3 million to Berjaya Holdings. Trading profits for the year to December almost doubled at £938,000, but bottom line profit is up 10 per cent at £1.5 million. The dividend has been maintained at 1p.

RECENT ISSUES

Brassey Int'l Units 275 -4
British Waterf. 103 -1
Hughes (T) 756 83
Ind Control Servs (Up) 110+ 150+
Lawn Amm. Inc & Pl. 600+ 600+
M & G Recovery Inv Cap 409+ 241+
M & G Recovery Inv Cap 647+ 241+
Multicell Warranties 11 138
Libby Group (122) 26 ...
Welcor (RFD) 26 ...

YEAR TO 31ST MARCH
1992 1991
£M £M

2611 2650

OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS 183 209

PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAX AND EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS 114 152

PROFIT BEFORE TAX* 77 152

PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS 27 16

EARNINGS PER ORDINARY SHARE AFTER EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS 1.2P 8.6P

EARNINGS PER ORDINARY SHARE BEFORE EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS 5.5P 8.6P

TOTAL DIVIDEND FOR YEAR 6.0P 10.5P

*EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

**EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

†EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

‡EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

§EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

|||||||EXCLUDING DIVIDENDS FROM 1991 PROFIT AND REVALUATION GAINS AND LOSSES ON THE EXERCISE OF WARRANTS AND STOCK OPTIONS

Lessons from the MFI buy-out

In the not so distant days when there was a gleam in every merchant banker's eye anticipating the big deal he might arrange tomorrow, management buy-outs were all the rage. Then, they symbolised the enthusiasm for ever more creative variants of financial engineering through which the bankers and the deal-fixers hoped to cream off substantial fees and arrange sizable blocks of lending. Like most fashions in the financial world, the dream and the reality were poles apart.

Few large deals, apart from MFI, the furniture retailer, stayed the course from original buyout through to restructuring and refloating. During the expensive failures of ill-conceived ventures such as Magnet and Lowndes Queensway, even MFI looked headed for trouble at times as the recession and soaring interest rates made nonsense of the cash flows forecast by the financial engineers. But the continuing support of bankers and other lenders, tough rationalisation measures and tight financial controls have brought MFI through to within a few weeks of the final goal, a stock market float which will pay off the original lenders and recapitalise the group along more conventional lines.

Fortunately, the more extreme variants of the highly leveraged transaction, or HLT in the jargon of the banking world, did not proliferate here to the extent they did in America. For a period there, not even the very largest of companies were safe from junk-bond financiers eager to squabble over the carcass just to do a deal. Even in Britain, risky debt to equity ratios of four-to-one were not unusual.

MFI is a reminder first that LBOs can work even in the most adverse conditions and second that, treated conservatively, such financing techniques have a role to play in the continual process through which business restructures itself. The lessons of the late eighties have been well learned. These days deals are typically modest in scale and debt to equity matched more or less evenly. MFI, if its flotation is completed successfully, may have the added benefit of encouraging a greater supply of currently scarce equity capital for HLTs. If so, the hapless staff of Mirror Group Newspapers will surely say "amen" to that.

Dropping anchor

German doubts over the Maastricht treaty are burgeoning, though in a way that might allay the fear of German dominance in Denmark. More than 60 leading German economists have claimed in a caustic paper that monetary union, as set out in the treaty, was hasty, ill-considered and would endanger monetary stability and economic integration. The EC as a whole could only operate a single currency on the Maastricht timetable with higher inflation and economic imbalances or massive transfers to the weaker nations through the EC budget.

The colour of this sentiment was revealed in an interview yesterday by Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank's deputy president. He argued that the Danish vote had not blocked the road to economic integration, but could divert it back onto a path of older virtues, exemplified by the consequent rise in the mark on the foreign exchanges. The mark noted Herr Tietmeyer, had resumed its rightful function as Europe's anchor currency after the upturn challenges made in response to Germany's unsuitably high interest rates. He might have empathised with Yegor Gaidar, the Russian deputy prime minister, who was laying down the law more brutally on the new trouble zone in the former Soviet Union. Russia, he said, would rule it with an iron fist.

Some of the world's biggest financial centres are offshore. But they are under increasing pressure from taxmen and the police, says Peter Garfield

Financial professionals responsible for handling half the world's money will gather in New York on Monday for their annual offshore funds conference. As part of the official agenda, delegates from as far afield as the Channel Islands, Luxembourg, Bermuda and Cayman will debate the latest developments in fund structure, taxation and regulation.

With all conferences, there is a hidden agenda too. The real problems confronting offshore centres will not be addressed in the formal sessions but over cocktails and discreet supper gatherings. What is being done to weed out terrorist and drug-related money from offshore bank accounts? Does a proposed 30 per cent corporation tax on companies in EC member states signal the beginning of the end of Europe's offshore financial centres? To what extent should offshore centres co-operate with tax authorities from other countries?

What, though, is meant by an offshore centre? It is a loose term used to denote financial centres with three characteristics. First, they specialise in doing business with non-resident clients. Second, they offer a nil or low tax regime. (The French term is *paradis fiscal* — tax haven as opposed to tax haven.) Finally, they are lightly regulated, which might or might not be the same thing as inadequately regulated.

Using these tests, there are at least 20 offshore centres dotted around the globe. Some, like Jersey, the Isle of Man, Madeira and the Bahamas, are genuinely offshore. Others, such as Dublin and Gibraltar, are part of a land mass, while centres in Andorra, Liechtenstein and Luxembourg are landlocked. Then there are aspiring centres, determined to jump on what they see as a lucrative bandwagon. These include Alderney, Cyprus, Malta, the Canary Islands, Mauritius and Labuan, in Malaysia.

The business is certainly lucrative. Offshore centres are not always terribly revealing in the information they release but some reliable figures are available to indicate their financial muscle. Bank deposits in Jersey total more than £45 billion, more than half of it in foreign currencies, while tiny neighbouring Guernsey can boast deposits of almost £18 billion. To put the Channel Islands' total bank deposits of £63 billion in perspective, sterling current and de-

posit accounts with the National Westminster Bank in the UK total slightly less than £53 billion. Even Gibraltar, where the financial sector has not had the best press in recent years, now has 31 banks handling a total of almost £2 billion in deposits, a tenfold increase since 1984.

On the other side of the Atlantic, Grand Cayman's 538 banks hold a staggering total of \$432 billion in deposits. That places the island among the world's biggest ten financial centres, along with London, New York and Tokyo.

Such breathtaking figures are not confined to banking. Bermuda plays host to more than half the world's 2,500 captive insurance companies, while Luxembourg's mutual funds control £70 billion of investors' money. That is rather more than the entire UK unit trust industry.

The news is not all good in the offshore centres. Tax, police and regulatory authorities the world over still take a lot of convincing that they are not just sunny places for shady people. Their fears are often well founded. In 1990-1, more than 300 banks in the Caribbean island of Montserrat were forcibly closed after investigations by Scotland Yard's Fraud Squad, which revealed widespread money laundering and fraud. One Montserrat bank even had the cheek to issue a \$5 million certificate of deposit six weeks after its licence had been revoked.

Similar problems have been encountered in Grenada, where phoney banks are still being unearthed, even though 200 have been shut down.

The North American Securities Administrators Association refers to centres such as Montserrat and the Pacific micro-states of Nauru, Vanuatu, Tonga and the Marshall and Northern Mariana Islands as "friendly islands of fraud" and "centres of prostitute banking", because they allow swindlers to set up banks, sometimes for as little as \$7,500.

The NASAA notes the case of David Hunt, a US-based financial planner who was sentenced to serve ten years in prison after defrauding at least 400 investors of \$7 million. Hunt's First Colonial Banking Ltd, located in the Marshall Islands, promised a return of 30 to 40 per cent a year through certificates of deposit, precious metals and an arbitrage trading scheme. It turned out that the only First Colonial bank "officer" located on the island was a



Bail out: the Isle of Man's compensation scheme is rare

petrol station attendant who was paid to pick up Hunt's mail (consisting of cheques from investors) and a local post office and remail them to him in the United States.

The better regulated offshore centres are rightly anxious not to be tarred with the same brush. Jersey, Guernsey, the Isle of Man and Bermuda all have designated territorial status for investment products under the United Kingdom's Financial Services Act. This implies that their own fund regulation is as good as the UK's, including a compensation scheme. The Isle of Man is

unusual among offshore centres in having a compensation scheme for bank deposits. Depositors in the failed BCCI will be able to claim up to £15,000 compensation in a bail-out that will cost the island's remaining banks and building societies £750,000 each in levies. Depositors in the Gibraltar branch of BCCI are not so lucky. There is no compensation scheme on the Rock.

Several centres have also introduced specific legislation in an attempt to counter money laundering. This is a particular problem for centres such as Turks & Caicos and

the Bahamas, which are on the direct flight path from Colombia to Miami. Turks & Caicos, a British dependent territory, is party to a treaty between America and the UK on mutual assistance in criminal matters that allows disclosure of information relating to drug-related offences. Cayman has similar arrangements.

Caribbean centres are not alone in being blighted by drugs money. Jersey has introduced a drug trafficking offences law and several centres have developed codes of practice in an attempt to prevent the laundering of money through their banking, insurance and investment sectors. A new customer trying to deposit more than \$10,000 in cash in any reputable offshore centre will not reach the airport before being grilled by the local police.

Offshore life assurance companies tell their staff to be wary of requests for large single-premium contracts. Bad money is the scourge of all offshore centres and old suspicions die hard. Despite tighter regulation, offshore centres find it hard to shake off images of medal-sporting men in white suits and crocodile skin shoes carrying suitcases full of \$100 bills.

That is a problem for all offshore centres. They have their individual problems too. The biggest threat hanging over the European centres — Dublin, Gibraltar, Luxembourg and Madeira — is the recommendation by a committee of the European Commission that a mandatory 30 per cent withholding tax should be imposed on the profits retained or distributed, of all companies. Such an absurd move would drive money away to places such as Bermuda, Cayman and the Netherlands' Antilles, or to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, which are outside the Community.

The normally calm and single-minded approach to money-making in Jersey was shattered last month when the island's second most senior judge, who doubted as deputy speaker of the States of Jersey, was sacked and made a point of not going quietly. The financial sector was anxious to assure the outside world that there was no threat to political stability but the possibility of a change in the constitutional link with the UK might undermine investor confidence.

The world's offshore centres will doubtless continue to enjoy their successes and suffer their occasional setbacks. What is certain is that together they represent a potent, but largely anonymous, force in global finance. The continuing worry for tax and police authorities is that they are largely off limits for investigation, although they are engaged in a giant game of financial chess in which many moves have no obvious beginning and no identifiable end.

The writer is editor of Offshore Alert.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Hodkinson's broad view

JIM Hodkinson, the deputy chairman and chief executive of DIY group B&Q, who yesterday revealed that he would be moving on to Kingfisher's central staff as its overseas development director — handing over the B&Q reins to Alan Smith, hitherto with Superdrug — is nearing the end of a 20-year association with the company. Hodkinson, 48, has long stated a desire to retire at 50 and although in his new guise he will be seeking expansion opportunities for B&Q in Europe and elsewhere — "I think there are lots of opportunities in South Africa," he says — he admits that this move is primarily a means of ensuring a smooth two-year transfer of the B&Q controls. "I've been with the business for 20 years, opened its fourth shop in Bournemouth, and do not want to stay for another ten years doing the same thing." Hodkinson, a self-confessed workaholic and an irrepressible entrepreneur, intends to spend his so-called retirement years developing other businesses. In partnership with John Ashcroft, one-time chairman of Colman's, he already owns a chain of nine shops which sell a range of outdoor clothing under the name of Survival and has plans to open three more this year. "We've also got a mail order business and a trade business, which applies the Brunei armed forces."



Bankruptcy aim

DIETER Abt, the Swiss businessman who once provided tea and cucumber sandwiches for the Queen and her guests at royal garden parties in his capacity as chairman of catering firm Town & County, has told the City Diary that he is about to file for personal bankruptcy in the UK. Town & County, now owned by Forte, went into receivership in January with debts of more than £10 million and Allied Lyons, which sold the firm to Abt in May 1990, has now sued him personally for non-payment of £3 million of the £5 million purchase price. Abt is also being sued by creditors led by Lloyds Bank. Abt, who held a lavish 40th birthday party at the Natural History Museum last July, says he has been "overwhelmed" by support from "friends in the establishment". He denies, however, that those supporters include

Lloyd's must cut costs by 20% now

From Mr G.E.Knight

Prince Edward, rumoured to be a close friend. The Prince is, he explains, patron of the National Youth Theatre whose board Abt sits on. "That is the extent of our contact," Abt says. Buckingham Palace confirmed that Town & County will care for its garden parties next month.

Touching base

A YEAR after his last failed bid for Devenish, Bodddington chairman Dennis Cassidy is being tipped to bid again on June 18, but before he does he should cast an eye over the track record of old adversary John Reynolds, Devenish's PR adviser. Reynolds, 43, a former *Evening Standard* editor, joined PR consultancy Shawwick four years ago and following its successful takeover bid for Downy this week has just completed an unbroken run of five successful bid campaigns — three offers and two defences. Given that impressive record — the defence of Higgs & Hill against J Lovell, and victorious bids by the Coal Board pension fund for Globe and by Burmah Oil for Fosco — tongues are now wagging about Reynolds' own future. There is talk that he might break away from Shawwick and set up on his own, with the catchy sounding name of JPR PR or mentioned. Reynolds, however, laughs off any such suggestions. At the moment he says, all he wants to do is to touch base with his wife and their two children, Tom, four, and Archie, two, before Bodddington reappears on the take-over horizon. "I'm really looking forward to reintroducing myself to them," Reynolds says.

Wellcome warm towards private investors

From the Deputy Chairman, Robert Fleming & Co Limited

Sir, Far from wishing to discourage private investors from participating in the Wellcome plc share offer, as suggested by the chief executive of Prushare UK Ltd (Business Letters, June 11) all parties involved in the sale are committed to achieving a strong level of response from the retail market.

A share information line is already open, and private investors are able to register to apply now for an information pack and a prospectus when published. A certain number of shares will be reserved for early applicants in the UK public offer.

The minimum investment will be £1,000, with the clear objective of encouraging the private investor to apply for shares. The procedure for applying at the issue price has

been made as simple as possible.

However, the vendor of the Wellcome shares is a charitable trust which exists to make grants for medical research. Due to its status it is unable to offer discounts or other "perks". For every £1 million given away, the amount available for medical research falls by around £35,000 per annum.

Yours faithfully,
LAWRENCE BANKS,
Deputy Chairman,
Robert Fleming & Co Limited,
25 Copthall Avenue,
EC2

Letters to The Times
Business and Finance
section can be sent by
fax on 071-782 5112.

CAROL LEONARD

For your
free copy of
"History
of the Banking
Monarchs"
look at
letter-writing
through
the ages, call
0898 222 2222

Next time,
write
on something
important.

Whatever
you're
writing on,
make sure you
write on
Conqueror.

conqueror

Portfolio**PLATINUM**

From your Portfolio Platinum card. Check your right share price movement on this page only. Add them up to give you your total gain or loss. If it reaches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money named. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card and cardholder's name. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Code or Isin	Net Yield	P/E
1	BMC	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
2	Vulco	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
3	Canting (W)	Chem. Pies		-1.1	14.1
4	French Conn	Chem. Pies		-1.1	14.1
5	Cater Allis	Chem. Pies		-1.1	14.1
6	Festnight	Electrical		-1.1	14.1
7	Thibet & Rabin	Transport		-1.1	14.1
8	Conteknic	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
9	BSA	Transport		-1.1	14.1
10	Rugby Gp	Paper/Print		-1.1	14.1
11	Robins	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
12	Davies Newman	Transport		-1.1	14.1
13	Sopha	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
14	Meyer Int	Building/Rds		-1.1	14.1
15	Realty Farm	Food		-1.1	14.1
16	Thames Water	Water		-1.1	14.1
17	Colorgraphic	Paper/Print		-1.1	14.1
18	Seven Trent	Water		-1.1	14.1
19	Midley	Building/Rds		-1.1	14.1
20	Wattonough	Paper/Print		-1.1	14.1
21	Progressive	Property		-1.1	14.1
22	TI	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
23	Ring Furniture	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
24	Usher Walker	Paper/Print		-1.1	14.1
25	South Indo	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
26	Plastex	Electrical		-1.1	14.1
27	Kirk Saw	Food		-1.1	14.1
28	Hedgewood Fids	Food		-1.1	14.1
29	Pete	Electrical		-1.1	14.1
30	Burratt Devs	Building/Rds		-1.1	14.1
31	Tessidin	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
32	Pastor	Drapery/Sns		-1.1	14.1
33	Telkinium Hot	Leisure		-1.1	14.1
34	Magnolia	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
35	Claver Coss	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
36	Parfum Food	Food		-1.1	14.1
37	Barry Chees	Chem. Pies		-1.1	14.1
38	Stevy	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
39	MERC	Property		-1.1	14.1
40	Norton	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
41	Howson	Industrial		-1.1	14.1
42	Shapero Corp	Electrical		-1.1	14.1
43	Lambert	Shoe/Lth		-1.1	14.1
44	VTR	Paper/Print		-1.1	14.1

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Total

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily yields for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no winners of yesterday's £4,000 Portfolio Platinum prize, which will be added to today's award.

No	Company	Price	Net Yield	P/E
1	Abbey Inv	11.1	-1.1	14.1
2	Alfred Clegg	11.1	-1.1	14.1
3	Amico	11.1	-1.1	14.1
4	Angus New X	11.1	-1.1	14.1
5	Antarctic Resources	11.1	-1.1	14.1
6	Arco	11.1	-1.1	14.1
7	Armstrong	11.1	-1.1	14.1
8	Arup Group	11.1	-1.1	14.1
9	Arthur Andersen	11.1	-1.1	14.1
10	Ashtons	11.1	-1.1	14.1
11	Ashurst	11.1	-1.1	14.1
12	Ashurst Smith & Bell	11.1	-1.1	14.1
13	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
14	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
15	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
16	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
17	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
18	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
19	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
20	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
21	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
22	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
23	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
24	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
25	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
26	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
27	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
28	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
29	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
30	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
31	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
32	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
33	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
34	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
35	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
36	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
37	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
38	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
39	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
40	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
41	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
42	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
43	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
44	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
45	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
46	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
47	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
48	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
49	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
50	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
51	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
52	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
53	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
54	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
55	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
56	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
57	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
58	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
59	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
60	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
61	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
62	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
63	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
64	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
65	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
66	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
67	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
68	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
69	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
70	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
71	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
72	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
73	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
74	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
75	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
76	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
77	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
78	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
79	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
80	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
81	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
82	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
83	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
84	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
85	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
86	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
87	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
88	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
89	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
90	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
91	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
92	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
93	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
94	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
95	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.1	14.1
96	Ashurst Webber	11.1	-1.	

Management buy-ins make a comeback

By DEREK HARRIS

A GROWING breed of second-time-around entrepreneurs is bringing a revival of the management buy-in companies continue shelling non-core businesses. Ex-managers leading buy-ins are "an exceptional mixture of personality and motivation", according to research by 3i, Britain's biggest provider of venture capital.

Often they develop the strongest team by including key individuals who were part of the previous management. The result is a mixture of a management buyout and a buy-in, now known as a buy-in management buyout, or Bimbo.

Since 1985, the number of MBIs has been growing rapidly following the earlier popularity of MBIs. In 1989, MBI activity slowed. However, last year there were 111 MBIs in Britain, according to the Centre for Management Buyout Research at Nottingham University. 3i invested in 40 per cent of them and, to organise a flow of high-calibre managers ready to lead buy-ins, it set up a panel as part of its MBI programme.

Patrick Dunne, who heads the 3i buy-in unit, said: "The research indicates a new wave of MBI activity and an increase in their success rate." There had been a sharp rise in 3i's own buy-in activity, he said. 3i has spotted a new trend for MBIs to attract those who have been involved before,

either in MBIs or have previously owned and managed businesses which they sold.

The survey says these second-time entrepreneurs demonstrate drive and enthusiasm to achieve success and have also shown self-confidence in breaking out of comfortable corporate jobs to run independent businesses.

Conviction that breaking out is a good thing to do reaches a peak when managers reach their mid-twenties. This is when the frustrations in working for somebody else are growing.



"I'm afraid in your case there seems no sign of economic recovery"

071-481 4481

An old craft that is still in demand

By DAVID ASHKAM

THE craft of thatching is still much in demand, beautifying English villages and preserving an ancient heritage. However, it is not only a question of preserving old cottages: the latest development is thatch for new property.

Derek Pearce and Andrew Barsby, two Wiltshire thatchers, recently completed a thatched roof on an entirely new house in a south Wiltshire village. They are now working on an extension to an existing thatched property. With the new house, the owners decided early on a thatched roof.

Mr Pearce said: "The owners asked me nearly two years ago if I would be interested in the job, long before they appointed a builder." Roofing the four-bedroomed house this way cost about £12,000. Thatching, which so far accounts for most thatching work, is more expensive by as much as a quarter because of the labour in the stripping and disposing of old thatch. Re-thatching an average three-bedroom cottage costs between £6,000 and £8,000.

Mr Pearce said: "A well-thatched roof will last at least 25 years. Norfolk reed — now frequently imported from abroad and twice the price of combed wheat reed — has a life span of around 60 or 70 years. In a good situation, Norfolk reed roofs have been known to last for as much as 100 years."

The pair, whose order book is full for the rest of this year, are unusual among thatchers, who



Preserving an ancient heritage: Wiltshire thatchers Andrew Barsby (left) and Derek Pearce

tend to be isolated craftsmen. Nearly 18 months ago they came together in what they describe as a "loose partnership".

Mr Pearce has spent most of his 25 years of working life following in his father's footsteps because he is descended from a Wiltshire thatching family that goes back almost 300 years.

Mr Barsby is a first-generation Thatcher who, about 20 years ago, left school and joined an experienced Thatcher and then started on his own. The partnership con-

fers several advantages, said Mr Pearce. He went on: "Apart from enjoying each other's company we think alike and complement each other at work very well. For instance, during the past hot summer, we both started work at five o'clock in the morning and worked through till one in the afternoon, allowing us to rest from the heat in the afternoons."

Speed in getting a job done can be crucial. The new house thatching, for example, had a strict time limit. Mr Pearce said: "With two

of us we can complete work more swiftly and that makes us more competitive."

They believe it is client satisfaction which has ensured their full order book through the recession. They both invested in good training, each attending courses organised at Knuston Hall, Northamptonshire, by the Rural Development Commission.

Mr Pearce said: "We're proud of producing a high quality product." Gale damage has brought a flow of work.

BRIEFINGS

Much improved sales and a slight improvement in investment intentions are reported in the latest quarterly survey from the Small Business Research Trust, sponsored by National Westminster Bank. However, jobs are still being shed by small businesses. A positive balance of 20 per cent of small businesses surveyed expected sales to rise, with the most optimism evident in Wales (a positive balance of 37 per cent), while both East Anglia and the West Midlands stood at plus 24 per cent. Least cheerful was the East Midlands, but it was still recording plus 10 per cent.

■ Berg and Co, a Manchester solicitor, has set up Berg Business Consulting to advise small businesses on problems, including under-capitalisation, raising development capital, insolvency and banking difficulties. Berg reckons that 46,000 small businesses will fail this year because advice is not available or is too expensive. Tel: 061-833 9211.

■ Two videos for managers have been produced by TV Choice Productions. *Business In The Real World* shows dramatised case studies, including managerial bullying, sexism and racism. It uses strong language to create realism. The five half-hour programmes cost £240 each, plus VAT. *Mire Should Not Have Closed Down* is an account of a company that goes into receivership. This video costs £240, plus VAT. Tel: 071-379 0873.

EDITED BY DEREK HARRIS

FAX 071-782 7828

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

NOTICE TO READERS

We take reasonable precautions with your notices. We strongly advise to take professional advice before paying a deposit or entering into any commitment.

ADS CONDITIONING Particulars

Full range from £100+. VAT

no installation fees. Ideal office / home. Tel: 071-379 7005. Fax: 0780 894477.

BBM XT - LOMB 2300. AT 20MB

2400. AT 32MB. 2600. CASH

2800. CHG 0265 796203

BUSINESS FOR SALE

CUMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT supplier. Extremely successful, well respected. 1/6 share. Tel: 0898 8000. Please Reply box No 8943.

COUNTRY RESTAURANT - 2

and private accommodation.

separate galleried setting.

Excellent potential to expand.

Tel: 0954 885120.

EMPLOYMENT Agency. Hotel, catering and domestic. Contact local bureaux. Tel: 081 800 8000.

WEST SUSSEX

Leisure County

Resort. Over 500 miles from the coast. Prominent roadside position and picture-postcard building covers 400 acres. Superb views, swimming pool and gardens.

David German, 38 High Street, Storrington, West Sussex (0903) 873212

GENERAL

THE INSIDERS GUIDE TO DISCOUNT AIRFARES

If you travel you need *Dame Digest*, it is the comprehensive listing for confidential nett airfares, airlines and agents at all major UK airports.

Use *Dame Digest* and you could save POUNDS off the cost of air travel. It lists hundreds of destinations giving you the lowest fares and telling you which airline and agent supplies them. It tells you where to buy travel agents are buying their tickets and the price they pay. Now you can go straight to the source for your discounted tickets.

All agents can buy returned scheduled flights to New York for under £200 DO THEY OFFER THEM TO YOU?

CONFIDENTIAL NETT FARES

IN FIRST CLASS.

CLUB CLASS.

ECONOMY CLASS. WORLDWIDE

As you know there are many deals on Business and First Class travel.

Dame Digest lists the amazing bargains for you. Have you ever sat in first class and found the person sitting next to you paid half your fare? Now you can find out how to do it yourself. Only 40% of first class passengers pay the full fare.

Each of your business trips probably involves more than one destination. We also list the special deals on circle fares. **PEOPLE RARELY PAY THE FULL FARE ON ROUND THE WORLD TICKETS.** In a separate section we list the possible permutations and the suppliers.

FREE

£250

Flight Voucher

for travel within the UK

YES. Please send me *Dame Digest*.

I wish to pay my £39.50 subscription annually by Access/Visa/Chase cheque

Credit card no

Date

Signature

Address

TEL

Please return to: *Dame Digest Ltd*, Dame House, New Pond Hill, Heathfield, East Sussex TN21 0NB

Tel: 0435 867507

BUSINESS FOR SALE

INTERIOR DESIGN - DEMONSTRATION studio. Fully equipped. Ideal home base with first floor showroom. Rent £1,000 per month. Deposit £1,000. Tel: 0797 7224460.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

AGENTS/DISTRIBUTORS required for launch of unique product. Circumflex International. Tel: 0171 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

BUILDER/DEVELOPER

Southampton area. Excellent track record. Tel: 0703 230000.

INVESTMENT

Opportunities. Tel: 0703 230000.

INVESTMENT

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202 0000.

NOTES/LEISURE

Business producing steady £250,000 p.a profit. Prime High St position, but low overheads. Tel: 071 202

INFOTECH TIMES

Japan's research goes flat

A new screen, not a thinking machine, has emerged, writes Matthew May

A collective smirk has now been set on the faces of the serious side of the computer industry for several years whenever the term fifth generation is mentioned. In 1982 Japan envisaged that this month would be one of celebration as it would mark the tenth and final anniversary of the project that was going to leap ahead of the computer technology of the rest of the world and develop machines capable of artificial intelligence.

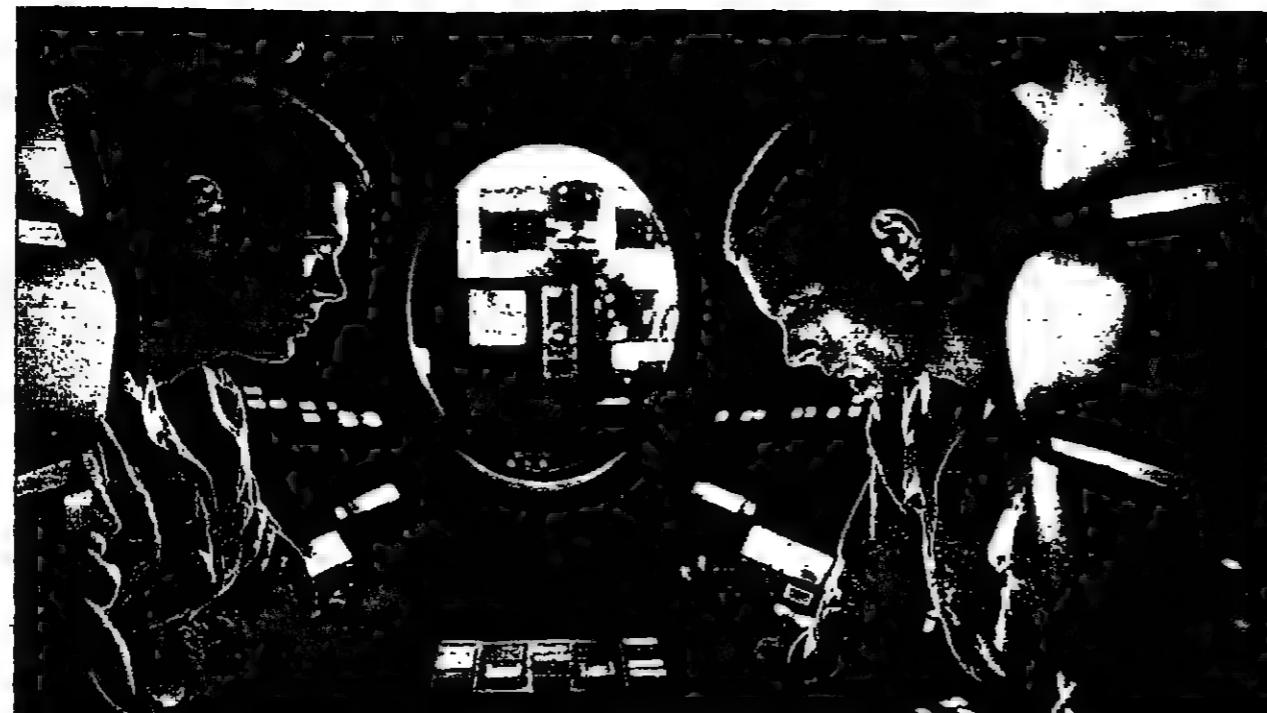
Instead, only about 130 of the world's computerists turned up at a Tokyo conference last week to try to defend the £230 million project that has failed to produce computers with the ability to make reasoned judgments.

The project has provided only modest advances in parallel processing, a technique that involves using a large number of processors simultaneously to tackle complex problems. Some American companies have dismissed this as something they have been able to do for some time.

Some international experts at the conference said significant achievements had been made, however, and blamed the media for setting expectations too high, envisaging that Japan was producing a thinking computer closely resembling the machine HAL in the film *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Others around the world are also muted in their criticisms of what most agree has been a gigantic flop.

Scientists working on some government-funded projects know also that without Japan's guns for a fifth generation American and European governments would not have been panicked into setting up much of their own research and development programmes. They feared that by this year Japan would be dominating the computer industry just as it had attacked the consumer



electronics and car industries.

Even if Japan has failed in one important area — and there is little international concern over its next project on neural networks — it is set to have a huge stake in if not to dominate another field in which it has been internationally weak, that of PCs. Japan has been handicapped by needing to develop unique domestic PCs with high-resolution screens, keyboards and special processing power to handle Japanese characters.

The considerable part of the world that uses a Roman alphabet raced towards a common de facto standard established by the first IBM PC. The result of this is that millions of cheap PCs can now choose from thousands of software packages.

In Japan, however, NEC and Epson account for 60 per cent of sales with machines that are incompatible with the industry standard for the rest of the world, while dedicated word processing machines still sell well. The latter products are virtually obsolete in most countries, having been replaced by a PC and a cheap word processing package.

Until recently this hampered Japanese exports of PCs and equally made it difficult for foreigners to gain a foothold. The problems of producing PCs that are able to handle



Coming soon: people expected a computer from Japan like HAL in 2001, top. They got the flat screen, above

the complexities of the Japanese language have been a far more effective barrier to trade than any protectionism by the rest of the world.

The largest of the foreign computer companies represented in Japan is IBM. The group's subsidiary has been there since 1950 and now employs 23,000 people. Japan is the only country in which IBM operates without being the leader at some time.

IBM is now trying hard to persuade the Japanese to adopt the world industry standard by providing a special

version of the ubiquitous DOS operating system known as DOS V, able to handle both the processing of the Japanese language on standard PCs and also run software from the rest of the world.

While foreign manufacturers may still find it difficult to sell in Japan to the fiercely brand-loyal customers, Japanese manufacturers now have a thriving export market, which has been transformed since the sale of portable computers took off.

Most portable computers use a flat liquid crystal display

make, and because one speck of dust can ruin the production process, more than half the screens made at some plants have to be thrown away.

Companies such as Display Technologies, NEC and Canon are working on 14in flat colour screens that will be large enough for desktop use and they are confident that prices will fall steadily.

The future of flat colour screens, however, is not just in computers. Sharp is already selling a 5in flat colour television in Japan, though at a steep price, but as in the computer field, costs are expected to fall quickly and the screen size to increase. It is quite possible that flat screen televisions in the home will become common within a few years.

If tomorrow's high-definition television (HDTV) systems are to succeed as planned, some alternative must be found to the cathode ray tube. HDTV sets need to be larger than current televisions if their promise of providing cinema quality in the home is to be achieved.

The requirement for cathode ray tube sets to be nearly as deep as they are wide means many customers will balk at the prospect of having one in the living room.

The answer is, of course, the sort of flat wall screens that science fiction films have envisaged for years but have proved remarkably elusive.

Whether or not sufficiently large liquid crystal display sets will ever be possible is unknown. Other possibilities include improved video projection systems and plasma displays.

Flat screens, the advocates say, are not only thin and light but also have less flicker and lower power consumption and should remove the fear of any potential health problems caused by electromagnetic radiation.

Whether it is a desktop or a portable, the flat screen looks likely to make the use of today's bulky cathode ray tube as a computer screen extinct if it can be produced at the right size and price.

These are the two crucial problems. The larger the screen the more difficult it is to

ON LINE Data in miniature

THE world's smallest disc drive, a matchbox-sized device supplying portable memory to machines including handheld computers and mobile telephones has been announced by Hewlett-Packard. The 1.3in disc drive can hold more than 21.4 megabytes of memory, equal to more than 14,000 typed pages.

The small drive could be an alternative to solid state memory or flash memory cards that also hold extra memory but at three or more times the cost. The company will sell the drive for about £250, or £140 if ordered in bulk.

Euro phones

THE European Community is to make it easier for companies to lease telephone lines from public networks across the EC. Legislation adopted by telecommunications ministers will allow businesses to set up pan-European networks for services such as databases, electronic mail and electronic money transfers under standard conditions. This is the first vital step in the EC's Open Network Provision plan to liberalise access to public telecommunications.

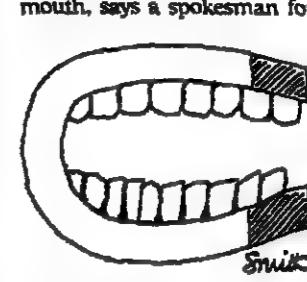
The measures, which will take effect a year after states are notified of their adoption, require procedures for leasing lines to be open and non-discriminatory.

Honesty lessons

SCHOOLS in America should teach computer ethics to discourage young people from becoming involved in high-technology crime, says a report from the justice and education departments. The report gave examples of school programmes to teach responsible computer use. In elementary schools, children could be taught about key concepts and legal information in ways to which they can relate. Secondary school students could take part in mock trials of technology criminals and could be taught about intellectual property rights and technology licensing.

Fibre pictures

NIPPON Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) has tested a new system of sending images through optical fibres paving the way for advanced computer applications. The Japanese telecommunications company says the system uses a device known as a spatial light modulator to remove distortions that usually occur when images, ranging from televised calls to computer graphics, are sent over optical fibres. NTT says transmission speed and capacity could be increased as images are transmitted at once. In conventional transmissions using electrical signals, an image is divided into billions of dots called pixels. This process, however, is time-consuming as the pixels are sent in sequence to avoid distortion.



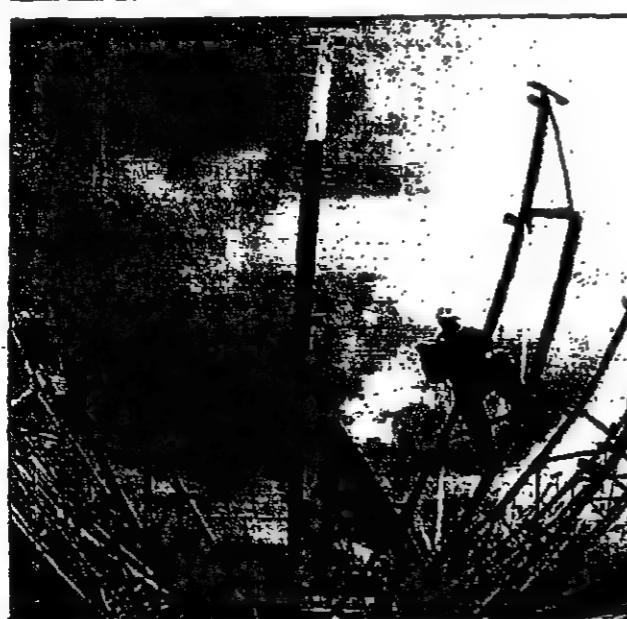
Hitachi Metals. Asked whether the magnet might also attract forks, spoons, needles or other metal objects, the spokesman said: 'In the early stages of development we were worried about that, but our new product is perfectly designed so as to stop the magnet from attracting anything except false teeth.'

French zoom

ZENITH Data Systems has announced an extensive family of computer products and a new logo that it hopes will lift it out of the doldrums and re-establish it in the PC market. The French-owned company, which previously concentrated on selling clones, or lower-priced copies of expensive computers, is now taking a more aggressive approach with machines that boast new technology. The computers also look better thanks to Frogdesign, the industrial designer that created the look of Apple Computer's Macintosh and NeXT's workstations.

Challenge on the line

The French telephone system is no longer a joke. Today France has more subscribers than Britain



Building up: how long can BT stay ahead in Europe?

are often linked by high-capacity fibre-optic cables as traditional copper wire connections are phased out.

They enabled the test introduction of a commercial integrated services digital network (ISDN) in France in 1987, able to carry images, including moving pictures and computer data, as well as voice signals.

Britain and France are neck and neck in ISDN provision. The new service is available to

just under 90 per cent of businesses in both countries.

The French system, Numeris, became nationally available to business and private subscribers in 1990. A subscriber could use it to browse through a picture library, send a fax and high-quality facsimile or hold conversations simultaneously with several people.

Early customers range from banks to Euro Disney. Studies showed that the most common first use was by large companies trying to improve their communications.

BT, which has taken a gradual approach to introducing ISDN-type services, has had a similar experience. Radio Prestatly in Manchester, for example, uses its 30-line ISDN system to send broadcast-quality match commentary from the Old Trafford ground to its studios. ISDN's greatest potential will be in videophones and video-conferencing in which moving images supplement sound.

BT claims 60,000 ISDN lines are in use in the UK but hopes for a larger market among standard PC users. These subscribers will soon be able to convert their machines to send and receive moving

RISING STARS

Imagine. An award-winning range of compact personal computers, whose power can be upgraded by a simple and inexpensive change of a small processor card.

Designed and built to a quality normally associated with far more expensive brands.

Produced and supplied direct to the end user by a leading manufacturer with a reputation for professional Technical Support, as well as in-depth expertise in connecting PCs together.

From a 33MHz 386SX to a mighty 50MHz 486DX, the new Elionex upgradeable PC range now offers the kind of performance that most people only dream about.

It takes Innovation to turn Imagination into Reality.

Tel 081 - 452 4444
Fax: 081-452 6422
Elionex Plc, 2 Adeley Way, London NW2 7LS

Tel (0274) 307226
Fax: 0274-207294
Elionex Plc, 7 & 8 Campus Road
Luton Science Park, Bedford MK40 7RA

Tel (1) 40 85 85 40
Fax: (1) 40 85 84 83
Elionex France, 22 rue de la Paix, Paris 75001, France

Tel 10 41 42 26.
Fax: 10 41 45 56
Elionex (Belgium) SA
Wavre (Brussels), Belgium

ELIONEX

PERSONAL COMPUTERS

A SPECIAL OFFER—AT A VERY SPECIAL PRICE

386sx 25 MHz

* Colour VGA (1MB) • 25 IP 1 Game • 1.2 & 1.44 Floppy Drives
• 44Mb Hard Disk • 2MB RAM • Mouse, DOS 5, Windows 3

ONLY £877.00 PLUS VAT & DELIVERY

INCLUDES 12 MONTHS ON-SITE NATIONAL WARRANTY

GALAXY

COMPUTERS

PHONE OUR SALES HOTLINE

0733 68899

OR FAX 0733 897227

FRANCIS PEARCE

Elionex® is a registered trademark of Elionex Plc. All other trade marks acknowledged. Prices and specifications subject to change without notice.

Bowling variety needed for second Test

England look to welcome back Malcolm's pace

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS plain to all at Edgbaston this week that the most pressing problem afflicting the England team is a shortage of bowling variety. It is not quite so plain what can be done about it.

Indeed, when the selectors link up this weekend to finalise plans for the second Test match, which starts at Lord's next Thursday, they could spend more time bemanning bowlers who are not available than assessing those who are.

They would give a lot, for instance, to name Lawrence and Tufnell, respectively the speed and the guile that was missing on Edgbaston's sterile surface. Neither is fit. Fraser, the one bowler England would never have considered omitting at his best, is neither fully fit nor remotely in form.

Of those who might be considered, doubts persist about most of the fast bowlers and the generation gap conspires against the spinners, some being past their best and others yet to reach it.

Against such odds, the temptation is to abandon experiment and leave things as they are. This, however,

would be unforgivable, not so much in terms of the personnel involved as the balance of the side.

Edgbaston was that of a team desperate to avoid going one down. Gooch wanted to bowl first yet, by including only four bowlers, he betrayed negative thoughts.

Gooch was not to know that only two balls would be bowled on Friday and that the weather would turn in favour of the batsmen or that the pitch would contain none of the promised pace and bounce. But the tactics were still defensive and the first thing to be decided was that Botham, assuming his recovery from a groin strain, must return to No. 6 in the batting order.

Botham's virtue is that he gives the side balance because he is that rarity, a genuine sixth batsman and fifth bowler. This is an advantage wasted if he bats at seven as one of only four bowlers.

It will be hard on Ramprakash, who received the closest to an unplayable ball seen in the game. But with Lewis at seven and Russell, possibly bating better

than at any time in his life, at eight, there is no question of a long tail.

DeFreitas may still disappoint with the bat but he no longer does with the ball and he was not only the one England bowler to take a wicket at Edgbaston but the only one who seemed likely to. With Lewis choosing to operate at little more than medium pace, the comparable trundlings of Botham and Pringle were too much of an indifferent thing.

Pringle should be the one to go now but if, as is likely, his place is taken by Devon Malcolm, it will reflect nothing more starkly than a lack of alternatives.

Malcolm's 12 first-class

wickets this year have cost 43 runs each. Gooch said he was overlooked for the first Test because he was not bowling well enough when the team was chosen, a situation that can hardly have altered for the six overs he has purveyed in the fortnight since. He plays at Harrogate today, though, and will not need sensational figures to reclaim the place he lost after the corresponding Test at Lord's last year.

Munton might remain in the squad, though probably with the same frustrating outcome he suffered on his home ground, and others who could be considered are Cork, for his ability to swing the ball at lively speed, and Flott, not only talented but, as a left-amer, different.

Salisbury was chosen in the party for Edgbaston on the theory that conditions would suit his leg spin and left out of the XI on the theory that they would not. Gooch has since admitted that he should have played and it certainly seems illogical to jettison him now, though there may be a lobby for John Childs.

Botham's virtue is that he gives the side balance because he is that rarity, a genuine sixth batsman and fifth bowler. This is an advantage wasted if he bats at seven as one of only four bowlers.

It will be hard on Ramprakash, who received the closest to an unplayable ball seen in the game. But with Lewis at seven and Russell, possibly bating better

Essex ban Hussain

NASSER Hussain was yesterday suspended for two matches by Essex for "internal disciplinary reasons". The 24-year-old batsman, who played three Test matches for England in 1990 and has been on the last two England A winter tours, will miss the county championship and Sunday League fixtures against Durham at Hartlepool this weekend.

Essex, traditionally one of the happiest of clubs, have revealed Hussain's suspen-

sion because they feel his absence this weekend should be explained. It is understood the incident involving Hussain took place in the Essex dressing-room on the final day of their championship match against Kent at Tunbridge Wells on Monday.

Peter Edwards, the Essex secretary, said: "We are certainly not going into further details and everyone at the club has been told not to comment about it and that the matter is now closed."

Salisbury was chosen in the party for Edgbaston on the theory that conditions would suit his leg spin and left out of the XI on the theory that they would not. Gooch has since admitted that he should have played and it certainly seems illogical to jettison him now, though there may be a lobby for John Childs.

Botham's virtue is that he gives the side balance because he is that rarity, a genuine sixth batsman and fifth bowler. This is an advantage wasted if he bats at seven as one of only four bowlers.

It will be hard on Ramprakash, who received the closest to an unplayable ball seen in the game. But with Lewis at seven and Russell, possibly bating better

Pakistanis in sight of another win

BY IVO TENNANT

TRENT BRIDGE (second day of three): The Pakistanis, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, need 73 runs to beat Nottinghamshire

THE Pakistanis have beaten three counties in first-class matches so far on their tour and there is no reason to suppose they will not win again today. Aamir Sohail surpassed himself with a flurry of witty strokes that brought him ten fours in his half-century and his side to within 73 runs of victory.

If it takes pecuniary incentive from Tetley Bitter for these matches to become more competitive than in the past, then so be it. Nottinghamshire are fielding virtually their strongest side here, not that that is apparent from the scorecard. Dismissed for 116 on Wednesday, they fared little better yesterday.

It was a day when the bad ball had to be put away to the boundary. Johnson and Lewis managed to do so and in a way which made a nonsense of everyone else's efforts.

Johnson, whose time may yet come at the highest level, had 14 fours in his 60, all of them cleanly struck. Naved Anjum was summarily seen off. As for Lewis his driving off the back foot was a constant delight. There were nine fours in his 50-ball 47.

Otherwise Aqib Javed and when he chose to slip himself,

Wasim Akram, were too much for a side which seemed to want for direction.

The dismissal of Randall, given caught behind by Bob White, was a case in point. Randall stood his ground in disbelief. When he did depart he turned round four times on his way to the pavilion.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First innings (Wessex Akram 4 for 5).

1/2 C Broad c Rasetti b Pick 12

M A Crowley c Fleeshel b Ago 15

R T Robinson c Reshid b Rahman 15

P Johnson bowled 162

D S Doherty c Reshid b Ago 15

C G Lewis c Majeed b Ago 47

K P Evans lbw b Ago 11

1/3 N French c Razzaq b Ago 3

A F Pick c Reshid b Lewis 25

H C Cooper c Reshid b Ago 12

E K Cooper c Tanvir b Ago 2

Extras (b, 1, s, 3, nb, 6) 15

Total (5 wkt, 162) 112

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-72, 3-47, 4-117, 5-147, 6-192, 7-177, 8-209.

BOWLING: Naseem 14-92; Lewis 18-0-51;

French 12-24; Pick 9-20; Ago 8-32;

Tanvir 7-35; Cooper 6-12; Kevins 5-10;

Evans 5-12; Reshid 4-11; Doherty 4-10;

Robinson 3-10; Doherty 2-10; Lewis 2-9;

French 2-8; Lewis 2-7; Reshid 2-6;

Evans 2-5; Reshid 2-4; Cooper 2-2;

French 2-2; Reshid 1-1; Lewis 1-1;

Evans 1-1; Reshid 1-1; Lewis 1-1;

French 1-1; Reshid 1-1; Lewis 1-1;

Cash beats two seeds in same day

Brittle Ivanisevic cracks against Matsuoka's service

BY ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

NO DEFEAT is straightforward for Goran Ivanisevic. A year ago, he lost to Nick Brown, of Britain, at Wimbledon. Yesterday, in the third round of the Stella Artois tournament at Queen's, he was beaten in 57 minutes by a karaoke-loving Japanese right-hander, who has only recently discovered the delights of grass-court tennis.

Even for the Croat, that was bizarre, particularly as he had been reassuring everyone within earshot that he was made of sterner stuff these days.

His conqueror, Shuzo Matsuoka, admitted that he was unable to see Ivanisevic's serve early in the first set, let alone return them, but once he adjusted his sights he played with an assurance way beyond his limited experience on grass.

It was a long day and thankfully a dry one. Chris Wilkinson had potentially the busiest schedule because he had not completed his first round. But, having recorded his first win in the main draw of an ATP tournament, the British No. 2 lost to Wayne Ferreira in the second round.

Following the departure of two former Stella champions, Boris Becker and Ivan Lendl, three of the top ten seeds — Ivanisevic, Guy Forget and David Wheaton — went out, leaving only a smattering of seeds in the fourth round. Two of them, Pete Sampras and Brad Gilbert, will meet today in the fourth round.

Sampras served too solidly for Gianluca Pozzi, one at Wimbledon, two here

RESULTS FROM QUEEN'S

FIRST ROUND: C Wilkinson (GB) bt P Rafter (Aus), 6-3, 6-2; Second round: D Wilkinson (GB) bt T Montano (US), 6-2, 6-1; S Matsuoka (Japan) bt G Ivanisevic (Croat), 6-3, 6-2; G Forget (F) bt C Prohman (Can), 7-5, 6-4; D Wheaton (Us) bt J Ferrer (Span), 6-3, 6-2; C Becker (Ger) bt J Rafter (Aus), 7-5, 6-3; J Stachowiak (Aus) bt G Forget (F), 3-6, 6-1; P Cash (Aus) bt J Hasek (Aus), 6-4, 7-5, 6-4.

Third round: S Matsuoka (Japan) bt G Ivanisevic (Croat), 6-4, 6-3; P Sampras (Us) bt Pozzi (Ita), 7-5, 7-5; S Montano (Us) bt Wilkinson (GB), 6-3, 6-2; D Wheaton (Us) bt P Kukush (Gru), 4-6, 6-2; Cash (Aus) bt Hasek (Aus), 6-4, 6-2; G Becker (Ger) bt Matsuoka, 6-4, 6-3; S Evertz (Bel) bt Mauer, 6-4, 6-2.

ROWING

Searle brothers have last chance to impress

LONDON: Greg and Jonny Searle, who beat the world champions, Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, in an early trial in April, will race in a coxed pair at the Lucerne international regatta, which starts today (Mike Rosewell writes).

After defeats at Cologne and Essen regattas, Lucerne will be the last chance for the Searle brothers to demonstrate they are potential Olympic medal winners.

This regatta has never been more important for the British squad. The coxless pair of Pinsent and Redgrave are at-

sent, having already been selected for the Olympics, but, with the Games team to be named next Wednesday, some decisions will be needed on the evidence of this weekend.

After a selective change of direction, the top personnel below the two pairs have transferred from an eight to two fours. The coxed four of Nick Burfitt, Terry Dillon, Simon Berrisford, and Peter Mulkerns dominated the international scene in 1991 but their form this year is less clear, as is that of the coxless four.

CAMBRIDGE MAY RACES

Men
SECOND DIVISION: Corpus Christi, bt P. Pashkov (Rus) 1st and 2nd; Petworth, bt P. Salihov (Rus) 1st and 3rd; Trinity, bt Petworth, bt P. Salihov (Rus) 1st and 3rd; Church of Christ, bt Petworth 1st and 2nd; Corpus Christi 2nd.
THIRD DIVISION: Corpus Christi, bt P. Salihov (Rus) 1st and 2nd; Trinity, bt Petworth 1st and 3rd; Church of Christ, bt Petworth 1st and 2nd; Corpus Christi 2nd.
FOURTH DIVISION: Petworth, bt P. Salihov (Rus) 1st and 2nd; Trinity, bt Petworth 1st and 3rd; Corpus Christi 2nd.
FIFTH DIVISION: Church of Christ, bt P. Salihov (Rus) 1st and 2nd; Trinity, bt Petworth 1st and 3rd; Corpus Christi 2nd.
SIXTH DIVISION: Trinity, bt Petworth 1st and 3rd; Corpus Christi 2nd.
SEVENTH DIVISION: Petworth, bt P. Salihov (Rus) 1st and 2nd; Trinity, bt Petworth 1st and 3rd; Corpus Christi 2nd.
EIGHTH DIVISION: Trinity, bt Petworth 1st and 3rd; Corpus Christi 2nd.
Standing order today
SECOND DIVISION: Head Boat, Corpus Christi; Petworth, Pashkov (Rus); Trinity, Salihov (Rus); Church of Christ, Pashkov (Rus); Corpus Christi 2nd.
FOURTH DIVISION: Head Boat, Corpus Christi; Petworth, Pashkov (Rus); Trinity, Salihov (Rus); Church of Christ, Pashkov (Rus); Corpus Christi 2nd.
EIGHTH DIVISION: Head Boat, Corpus Christi; Petworth, Pashkov (Rus); Trinity, Salihov (Rus); Church of Christ, Pashkov (Rus); Corpus Christi 2nd.

THE TIMES SPORTS SERVICE

RACING
Commentary
Call 0891 500 123
Results
Call 0891 100 123

FOOTBALL
Reports and results from the European championship finals in Sweden
Call 0839 555 562

CRICKET
Reports and results from the county championships
Call 0839 555 510

Call at 30p per min charge rate,
50p per min other times the V+T



Forcing stroke: Shirley Ann Siddall moves onto the attack during her 6-3, 6-3 defeat by Zina Garrison in the Dow Classic yesterday. Report, page 34

Sterling account handled by Rose

BY PATRICIA DAVIES

THE Scots in Sweden for the football may be uncharacteristically low-key but not those at Saunton after the second qualifying round for the British women's championship yesterday.

It was in 1981 that a Scot player (Belle Robertson) last won this title but they have eight people lined up to do battle in the marchplay stages today and one of them,

Vincent suffers one of those days

SALZBURG: A dead calm beneath the foothills of the Alps produced low scores in the first round of the Mitsubishi Austrian Open championship at Henndorf yesterday, led by Patrick Hall, with a 65, seven under par.

Shannon, who played in the Curtis Cup last week, has been catching up on the press

Alison Rose, leads them off, having finished top qualifier on 148, two under par.

Rose, who as a bank clerk handles the sterling for the Bank of Scotland in Sterling, returned two solid rounds of 74, one under par, to finish one shot ahead of Delphine Bourson, of France, and Leslie Shannon, of the United States.

Shannon, who played in the Curtis Cup last week, has been catching up on the press

cuttings this week. She found them to be very fair and balanced and she seemed to have much the same opinion of Saunton, although she did say: "It reminds me of the moon." She is from Fort Lauderdale, which is in the vicinity of space shot territory, but she and her husband own two gas stations rather than a rocket launcher and she did correct any notion that she might be a spaceman in her spare time by saying it

was as she imagined the moon would be had she been there and were it a golf course.

The undulations of Saunton, which again looked as idyllic a part of the world as there could possibly be, are certainly very alien to an American eye but they did not fare badly, with all eight members of the Curtis Cup team qualifying.

Six members of the Great Britain and Ireland Curtis Cup team qualified, the exception being Vicki Thomas, of Wales. She slipped in the shower, damaging her right elbow, and withdrew.

Hall, starting at the 10th, had four birdie putts in a row from the 15th to turn in 31. He came home in 34 to lead five players on 66.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

INDIANAPOLIS: Indianapolis Games (US) under 18s: Men, 1. Burrell (USA) 10.20m; 2. Clegg (GB) 9.83m; 3. Land (USA) 9.80m; 4. Ladd (USA) 9.74m; 5. F. Williams (GB) 9.64m; 6. J. Williams (GB) 9.59m; 7. E. Edwards (GB) 9.57m; 8. J. Edwards (GB) 9.54m; 9. J. Edwards (GB) 9.53m; 10. J. Edwards (GB) 9.51m; 11. J. Edwards (GB) 9.49m; 12. J. Edwards (GB) 9.48m; 13. J. Edwards (GB) 9.47m; 14. J. Edwards (GB) 9.46m; 15. J. Edwards (GB) 9.45m; 16. J. Edwards (GB) 9.44m; 17. J. Edwards (GB) 9.43m; 18. J. Edwards (GB) 9.42m; 19. J. Edwards (GB) 9.41m; 20. J. Edwards (GB) 9.40m; 21. J. Edwards (GB) 9.39m; 22. J. Edwards (GB) 9.38m; 23. J. Edwards (GB) 9.37m; 24. J. Edwards (GB) 9.36m; 25. J. Edwards (GB) 9.35m; 26. J. Edwards (GB) 9.34m; 27. J. Edwards (GB) 9.33m; 28. J. Edwards (GB) 9.32m; 29. J. Edwards (GB) 9.31m; 30. J. Edwards (GB) 9.30m; 31. J. Edwards (GB) 9.29m; 32. J. Edwards (GB) 9.28m; 33. J. Edwards (GB) 9.27m; 34. J. Edwards (GB) 9.26m; 35. J. Edwards (GB) 9.25m; 36. J. Edwards (GB) 9.24m; 37. J. Edwards (GB) 9.23m; 38. J. Edwards (GB) 9.22m; 39. J. Edwards (GB) 9.21m; 40. J. Edwards (GB) 9.20m; 41. J. Edwards (GB) 9.19m; 42. J. Edwards (GB) 9.18m; 43. J. Edwards (GB) 9.17m; 44. J. Edwards (GB) 9.16m; 45. J. Edwards (GB) 9.15m; 46. J. Edwards (GB) 9.14m; 47. J. Edwards (GB) 9.13m; 48. J. Edwards (GB) 9.12m; 49. J. Edwards (GB) 9.11m; 50. J. Edwards (GB) 9.10m; 51. J. Edwards (GB) 9.09m; 52. J. Edwards (GB) 9.08m; 53. J. Edwards (GB) 9.07m; 54. J. Edwards (GB) 9.06m; 55. J. Edwards (GB) 9.05m; 56. J. Edwards (GB) 9.04m; 57. J. Edwards (GB) 9.03m; 58. J. Edwards (GB) 9.02m; 59. J. Edwards (GB) 9.01m; 60. J. Edwards (GB) 9.00m; 61. J. Edwards (GB) 8.99m; 62. J. Edwards (GB) 8.98m; 63. J. Edwards (GB) 8.97m; 64. J. Edwards (GB) 8.96m; 65. J. Edwards (GB) 8.95m; 66. J. Edwards (GB) 8.94m; 67. J. Edwards (GB) 8.93m; 68. J. Edwards (GB) 8.92m; 69. J. Edwards (GB) 8.91m; 70. J. Edwards (GB) 8.90m; 71. J. Edwards (GB) 8.89m; 72. J. Edwards (GB) 8.88m; 73. J. Edwards (GB) 8.87m; 74. J. Edwards (GB) 8.86m; 75. J. Edwards (GB) 8.85m; 76. J. Edwards (GB) 8.84m; 77. J. Edwards (GB) 8.83m; 78. J. Edwards (GB) 8.82m; 79. J. Edwards (GB) 8.81m; 80. J. Edwards (GB) 8.80m; 81. J. Edwards (GB) 8.79m; 82. J. Edwards (GB) 8.78m; 83. J. Edwards (GB) 8.77m; 84. J. Edwards (GB) 8.76m; 85. J. Edwards (GB) 8.75m; 86. J. Edwards (GB) 8.74m; 87. J. Edwards (GB) 8.73m; 88. J. Edwards (GB) 8.72m; 89. J. Edwards (GB) 8.71m; 90. J. Edwards (GB) 8.70m; 91. J. Edwards (GB) 8.69m; 92. J. Edwards (GB) 8.68m; 93. J. Edwards (GB) 8.67m; 94. J. Edwards (GB) 8.66m; 95. J. Edwards (GB) 8.65m; 96. J. Edwards (GB) 8.64m; 97. J. Edwards (GB) 8.63m; 98. J. Edwards (GB) 8.62m; 99. J. Edwards (GB) 8.61m; 100. J. Edwards (GB) 8.60m; 101. J. Edwards (GB) 8.59m; 102. J. Edwards (GB) 8.58m; 103. J. Edwards (GB) 8.57m; 104. J. Edwards (GB) 8.56m; 105. J. Edwards (GB) 8.55m; 106. J. Edwards (GB) 8.54m; 107. J. Edwards (GB) 8.53m; 108. J. Edwards (GB) 8.52m; 109. J. Edwards (GB) 8.51m; 110. J. Edwards (GB) 8.50m; 111. J. Edwards (GB) 8.49m; 112. J. Edwards (GB) 8.48m; 113. J. Edwards (GB) 8.47m; 114. J. Edwards (GB) 8.46m; 115. J. Edwards (GB) 8.45m; 116. J. Edwards (GB) 8.44m; 117. J. Edwards (GB) 8.43m; 118. J. Edwards (GB) 8.42m; 119. J. Edwards (GB) 8.41m; 120. J. Edwards (GB) 8.40m; 121. J. Edwards (GB) 8.39m; 122. J. Edwards (GB) 8.38m; 123. J. Edwards (GB) 8.37m; 124. J. Edwards (GB) 8.36m; 125. J. Edwards (GB) 8.35m; 126. J. Edwards (GB) 8.34m; 127. J. Edwards (GB) 8.33m; 128. J. Edwards (GB) 8.32m; 129. J. Edwards (GB) 8.31m; 130. J. Edwards (GB) 8.30m; 131. J. Edwards (GB) 8.29m; 132. J. Edwards (GB) 8.28m; 133. J. Edwards (GB) 8.27m; 134. J. Edwards (GB) 8.26m; 135. J. Edwards (GB) 8.25m; 136. J. Edwards (GB) 8.24m; 137. J. Edwards (GB) 8.23m; 138. J. Edwards (GB) 8.22m; 139. J. Edwards (GB) 8.21m; 140. J. Edwards (GB) 8.20m; 141. J. Edwards (GB) 8.19m; 142. J. Edwards (GB) 8.18m; 143. J. Edwards (GB) 8.17m; 144. J. Edwards (GB) 8.16m; 145. J. Edwards (GB) 8.15m; 146. J. Edwards (GB) 8.14m; 147. J. Edwards (GB) 8.13m; 148. J. Edwards (GB) 8.12m; 149. J. Edwards (GB) 8.11m; 150. J. Edwards (GB) 8.10m; 151. J. Edwards (GB) 8.09m; 152. J. Edwards (GB) 8.08m; 153. J. Edwards (GB) 8.07m; 154. J. Edwards (GB) 8.06m; 155. J. Edwards (GB) 8.05m; 156. J. Edwards (GB) 8.04m; 157. J. Edwards (GB) 8.03m; 158. J. Edwards (GB) 8.02m; 159. J. Edwards (GB) 8.01m; 160. J. Edwards (GB) 8.00m; 161. J. Edwards (GB) 7.99m; 162. J. Edwards (GB) 7.98m; 163. J. Edwards (GB) 7.97m; 164. J. Edwards (GB) 7.96m; 165. J. Edwards (GB) 7.95m; 166. J. Edwards (GB) 7.94m; 167. J. Edwards (GB) 7.93m; 168. J. Edwards (GB) 7.92m; 169. J. Edwards (GB) 7.91m; 170. J. Edwards (GB) 7.90m; 171. J. Edwards (GB) 7.89m; 172. J. Edwards (GB) 7.88m; 173. J. Edwards (GB) 7.87m; 174. J. Edwards (GB) 7.86m; 175. J. Edwards (GB) 7.85m; 176. J. Edwards (GB) 7.84m; 177. J. Edwards (GB) 7.83m; 178. J. Edwards (GB) 7.82m; 179. J. Edwards (GB) 7.81m; 180. J. Edwards (GB) 7.80m; 181. J. Edwards (GB) 7.79m; 182. J. Edwards (GB) 7.78m; 183. J. Edwards (GB) 7.77m; 184. J. Edwards (GB) 7.76m; 185. J. Edwards (GB) 7.75m; 186. J. Edwards (GB) 7.74m; 187. J. Edwards (GB) 7.73m; 188. J. Edwards (GB) 7.72m; 189. J. Edwards (GB) 7.71m; 190. J. Edwards (GB) 7.70m; 191. J. Edwards (GB) 7.69m; 192. J. Edwards (GB) 7.68m; 193. J. Edwards (GB) 7.67m; 194. J. Edwards (GB) 7.66m; 195. J. Edwards (GB) 7.65m; 196. J. Edwards (GB) 7.64m; 197. J. Edwards (GB) 7.63m; 198. J. Edwards (GB) 7.62m; 199. J. Edwards (GB) 7.61m; 200. J. Edwards (GB) 7.60m; 201. J. Edwards (GB) 7.59m; 202. J. Edwards (GB) 7.58m; 203. J. Edwards (GB) 7.57m; 204. J. Edwards (GB) 7.56m; 205. J. Edwards (GB) 7.55m; 206. J. Edwards (GB) 7.54m; 207. J. Edwards (GB) 7.53m; 208. J. Edwards (GB) 7.52m; 209. J. Edwards (GB) 7.51m; 210. J. Edwards (GB) 7.50m; 211. J. Edwards (GB) 7.49m; 212. J. Edwards (GB) 7.48m; 213. J. Edwards (GB) 7.47m; 214. J. Edwards (GB) 7.46m; 215. J. Edwards (GB) 7.45m; 216. J. Edwards (GB) 7.44m; 217. J. Edwards (GB) 7.43m; 218. J. Edwards (GB) 7.42m; 219. J. Edwards (GB) 7.41m; 220. J. Edwards (GB) 7.40m; 221. J. Edwards (GB) 7.39m; 222. J. Edwards (GB) 7.38m; 223. J. Edwards (GB)

FRIDAY JUNE 12 1992

Taylor alters his plans as his team's European championship campaign opens

England held to goalless draw

England 0
 Denmark 0



Group two
 CIS v Germany (Norrköping, 7.15)
 Holland v Scotland (Stockholm, 4.15)

Remaining fixtures: Group one: Sunday: CIS v England (Malmö, 4.15); Sweden v Denmark (Stockholm, 7.15). Wednesday: France v Denmark (Malmö, 7.15); Sweden v England (Stockholm, 7.15). Group two: Monday: Holland v CIS (Stockholm, 4.15); Scotland v Germany (4.15 Norrköping). Thursday: Holland v Germany (Göteborg, 7.15); Scotland v CIS (Norrköping, 7.15).

SO MUCH for sweeping changes. Graham Taylor, England's manager, abandoned his plans for a progressive sweeper formation when England began their European championship programme with a disappointing draw against Denmark here last night.

The one predictable element of Taylor's line-ups has been their unpredictability. An hour before the kick-off he revealed that he was to reunite a pair of former Leicester City colleagues in his attack. The choice of Gary Lineker was obvious; that of Alan Smith was not.

Apart from being brought in for five games before and after last summer's tour, Smith had not appeared to be a part of Taylor's plans. The Arsenal centre forward's only active contribution during the last four months of extensive experimentation was briefly as a substitute in Hungary.

Neil Webb was left on the substitutes' bench as England's manager was forced by the loss of three significant members of his squad to alter his plans. Instead of introducing a progressive formation, he reverted to old ways. By contrast, Denmark followed the usual continental style of defending with a sweeper, Olsen.

Apart from a brief period of anxiety, England were not stretched throughout a first half when the Danes had the bright evening sunlight shining in their eyes.

Only when Keown committed an inelegant foul on Povlsen and when Curle was twice embarrassingly and worryingly beaten for pace was the composure of the defence shaken. Curle, the understudy to Stevens, was rightly booked for his second sin, a sharp tug on Andersen's shirt.

The belated replacements for Yugoslavia were short of individual brilliance and imagination. So were England, apart from the intrusions of Platt, running as usual from the deep. Smith was guarded by Nielsen and Lineker by Christophe.

Platt bursting into the gaps between them might have given England an early lead but he miscued from close

range after Palmer had nodded back a corner in his direction.

Not until Merson emerged from a sluggish and nervous opening did the threat to the dazed Schmeichel increase. Twice he cut in menacingly from the left flank and on the first occasion, having accelerated away from his pursuers he flicked the ball into the path of his club colleague, Smith. His side footed attempt was athleticism turned past a post by Denmark's giant goalkeeper.

On the second occasion Merson spoiled his run by shooting so inaccurately that he conceded a throw-in. It was to be a familiar theme. Too often England marred their build-ups by misdirecting the final pass.

Nor did they right an old wrong. Taylor has persistently accused his players of failing to take the opportunity to shoot, to "hurt the opposing goalkeeper", as he puts it. Apart from Smith's prod, the first direct strike, from long range by Steven, was after 40 minutes.

Nevertheless the Danes were no less enterprising. Early in the second half, an effort from Jensen swerved narrowly wide of the angle of post and bar. Minutes later he curled a cross which concerned Woods as it veered across his goal.

Before Daley replaced Curle after injecting some much-needed pace into England's challenge Christensen almost put Denmark ahead with a volley. At the other end and the Aston Villa extended Schmeichel to the limit with a left-footed drive.

Yet, midway through the second half, the pressure a defence now guarded on the right flank by Steven, mounted



Getting shirty: Keith Curle, the England defender, gets a firm hold of Henrik Andersen, of Denmark, during the teams' opening game of the European championship in the Malmö Stadium last night

ed. Jensen, after exchanging with Christensen, beat Woods and his shot rolled against the foot of a post and back into the arms of a grateful England goalkeeper.

Webb was subsequently brought on in place of Merson, whose contribution had faded, to add experience and security in midfield.

DENMARK: P Schmeichel (Manches United); J Sivabak (Monaco), K Nielsen (Aston Villa), C Christophe (Arsenal), H Andersen (Copenhagen), K Christophe (Arsenal), J Jensen (Brondby), K Vilborg (Brondby), S Laudrup (Bayern Munich); F Povlsen (Borussia Dortmund), B Christensen (PSV Eindhoven), M Keown (Everton), D Walker (Sampdoria), D Platt (Bar), T Merson (Arsenal), G Lineker (Tottenham Hotspur), Referee: J Blanckstein (Holl)

ENGLAND: C Woods (Sheffield Wednesday); K Curle (Manchester City), S Pearce (Nottingham Forest), M Keown (Everton), D Walker (Sampdoria), D Platt (Bar), T Merson (Arsenal), G Lineker (Tottenham Hotspur), Referee: J Blanckstein (Holl)

Adams waits for go-ahead

FROM STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT, IN MALMÖ

MARK Wright was examined by a Uefa doctor in Stockholm yesterday and it is feared that he will be unable to take any part in the tournament. He flew home after his medical appointment and is unlikely to return.

Europe's governing body has already allowed England to replace two injured players, John Barnes and Andy Simons with Gary Stevens and Keith Curle. An appeal for a third substitute has been made and the verdict from Uefa is expected to be delivered today.

Graham Taylor, England's manager, has already confirmed that the standby player will be Tony Adams, who is preparing for his wedding in five weeks. He could travel to Malmö in time to be at least in contention for a place in the side against France on Sunday.

Adams was in a similar position before the 1990 World Cup but, on that occasion, Wright, whose availability was again in question, proved himself sufficiently fit. He went on to play a significant part in the tournament.

Although Adams's fortunes may change, he is unlikely to take an active part in the European championship.

Four years ago Bobby Robson predicted that he would be a regular international for a decade and that he was also destined to be the captain.

Yet he was dropped after the visit to Saudi Arabia and has since largely been overlooked. Only if the sequence of injuries is drastically extended could Adams realistically hope to resume his international career in the next week or two.

This was particularly

deficient in the first

half, playing away

from the sun when

Schmeichel, in the Danish

goal, was in difficulty

against high balls. Stand-

ing on the edge of the pen-

alty area approaching half

time, his shadow stretched

back into his own goal net.

Merson, playing an up-

and-down role much as

Coppell used to do, chose

mostly to run in the last

third of the field, and when

Smith: aerial threat

Supporters are well behaved

FROM RODDY FORSYTH IN GOTHEMBURG

IN THE Ullevi Stadium this afternoon, Scotland will attempt to assault the final stages of the European championship for the first time in their history. Their opening contest against Holland, the defending champions and popular choice to take the title again this time, will determine whether the Scots have an extended stay or a prompt departure.

A defeat would put success in a formidable group virtually out of Scotland's reach and beyond the Scottish camp there has been little consideration given to any outcome other than a Dutch victory. The widespread assumption that Holland are virtually guaranteed both points may even have pervaded the Dutch camp, where few of the players appear to know the names of more than two or three of their Scottish peers.

It was a welcome change from England's last two appearances in this championship. In 1980, the game against Belgium was interrupted for 30 minutes when police fired teargas into the rioting England followers, and four years ago, there was widespread violence in Germany.

Only 3,000 England supporters attended, the fewest for the final stages of the World Cup or European championship on the continent for more than 20 years.

more and if we have enough in the reserve tank after a long, grueling Scottish season then I think we can surprise a lot of people."

There is unlikely to be any novelty about the Scottish selection, however. Although McLaren, of Heart of Midlothian, had been plucked from the under-21 ranks because of his aptitude for man-marking the 20-year-old defender will not be asked to shadow van Buren, as seemed likely at one stage. Roxburgh will rely on experience to steady the Scots during a critical passage.

Can the Scots really overcome a team of all the talents such as the Dutch possess? Probably not, but a draw is a possibility if Scotland can get behind Koeman and turn the three-man defensive arrangement around him. As Roxburgh put it yesterday: "The Dutch specialise in camping in your half and we have to find a way to stop them doing that. If we succeed in that we have a real chance".

"I knew I had to get my first serve in and was rushing, trying to hit the ball harder and double faulting. And she's so fast, I had no time at all," Siddall said.

Durie did not provide the only surprise of the day. Natalia Zvereva, the No. 5 seed and last year's finalist, was beaten 1-6, 7-6, 6-4 by Andrea Temesvári. The Hungarian now plays Durie.

Shirley-Ann Siddall was brought back to reality as she was defeated 6-3, 6-3 by Zina Garrison, the No. 1 seed. Her application could not be faulted, but she was hurried into errors and let down by an erratic serve.

Byrne, of Australia, who is being coached by Paul McNamee.

Another Australian, Brenda Stubbs, the No. 6 seed, before going down 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

RESULTS: Third round: J Durie (GB) bt N Tauziat (Fr) 5-7, 6-3, 6-4; L Michel (US) bt K Pospisil (Cze) 6-4, 6-3; J Björne (Aus) bt Y Diodor (Indo) 6-2, 4-6, 7-5; B Schmitt (Aus) bt R Stubbs (Aus) 6-2, 4-6, 7-5; A Tamayo (Hun) bt N Zvereva (Fra) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; L Fernández (Spa) bt S. Sánchez (Spa) 6-4, 6-3; G Fernandez (US) 6-4, 6-4, 2; Garrison (USA) bt S. Siddall (GB) 6-3, 6-3; P Shriver (USA) bt M. Jeppesen (Aus) 6-4, 6-1

You Recede.



With Advanced Hair Transplantation Technique - "Microblending"

Most people experiencing hair loss can correct their problem by relocating their own natural living hair. Philip's Hair Clinic's physicians take the excess living hair roots from the back of the head and "reseed" the thinning and balding areas at the front or top of the head. Single hair roots can be transferred to give a completely natural appearance so there's no

PHILIPS

Send the coupon or call us today for a free information pack.
0924 364575
 Philip's Hair & Health Clinic Ltd., 7 Providence Street,
 Wakefield WF1 3BG

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Postcode: _____
 Postcode: _____

Durie adds Tauziat to list of highly prized scalps

BY BARRY WOOD

JO DURIE extended her extraordinary run of success yesterday by defeating Nathalie Tauziat, the No. 2 seed, to reach the quarter-finals of the Dow Classic at Edgbaston.

With the exception of Martina Navratilova, Durie, aged 31, is the oldest player in the top 50, but she is increasingly defying the years. Totally free of the nagging injuries that hindered her ambitions for a long period, the British No. 1 has pro-

duced some exceptional victories over the past two years.

She reached the Newport final in July 1990, where she lost 7-5 in the third set to Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, beat Zina Garrison in Los Angeles last August, and Helena Sukova at the US Open.

A semi-final finish in St Petersburg came next, and two weeks ago at the French Open a win over Anke Huber, the world No. 9, on clay, her least favoured surface, marked a new high in Durie's renaissance.

Durie said Tauziat's ability to return serve well put pres-

sure on her to get the ball in play first time. Often, she failed to do so.

"All through my career my serve hasn't been a consistent shot. But I have to look at things in a positive light, because I was able to win today even though I wasn't serving well", she said.

Another aspect of Durie's game that frequently impresses these days is her fitness and mobility. Her reactions are sharp, and she covers the net well.

Durie said Tauziat's ability to return serve well put pres-

Formation misses the mark

DAVID MILLER
 IN MÅLÖ

The football coaches including Graham Taylor, would have you believe that the game is a science. At its best, of course, it is as much an art. Last night, the England team was at pains to find elements of either.

Having been in charge for close on two seasons, Taylor sent his team out for its opening match with a formation, 4-4-2, that on his own admission has not brought England success for a long while and is out of date. It looked particularly so on this occasion, and left many question marks against both selection and performance. A sharper team than the Danes, I suspect, would have punished England on several occasions and, as it was, in the last half-hour Jensen and Laudrup were unlucky not to score.

Too often England were so to be booting the ball into touch for want of the ability to do anything more constructive. Yet how the manager could revert to a backline of four with two central markers was baffling to spectators as it must have been for the team, whom the manager has been attempting to convince of the necessity of playing with a sweeper.

There were many times last night when the rear-guard quartet were doing little other than marking space, confronted by a single Danish attacker, Christensen. Yet strangest of all was the selection of Smith to partner Lineker for the first time since the second qualifying match against Turkey.

Smith does not look a footballer, at this level, when the ball is on the ground; he can be useful in the air. Yet now there was nobody to cross and give him a chance to pressurise a suspect defence.

This was particularly deficient in the first half, playing away from the sun when Schmeichel, in the Danish goal, was in difficulty against high balls. Standing on the edge of the penalty area approaching half time, his shadow stretched back into his own goal net.

Merson, playing an up-and-down role much as Coppell used to do, chose mostly to run in the last third of the field, and when

he penetrated the penalty area he consistently wasted possession. Yet, when Daley came on as an additional attacker midway through the second half, the England formation was now similar to that of Ron Greenwood's 14 years ago.

Daley momentarily frightened the Danes, but the threat was not to last.

As for most of the second half, it was the Danes who called the tune.

A part from Schmeichel's problems with the sun, England's penetration came primarily through lone efforts by either Lineker or Platt. With the Danes' marking in midfield less than obsessive, Platt found many opportunities to break forward, but could not find time and space to get aim on the target.

It was, overall, a disappointing display by England, lacking in guile, the players seeming disjointed. That is hardly surprising, given the number of changes forced upon them by injuries and the manager's continuing fluctuation in policy. There were times late in the game when England's defence was in desperate straits, as when Walker was lucky not to concede a penalty in the closing minute for blocking Christensen off the ball. If England are to progress they will need something substantially better than this, but it will all be snatching at straws. If they are unlucky in the matter of injuries, they were undoubtedly lucky once more on the run of play.

Smith: aerial threat

True

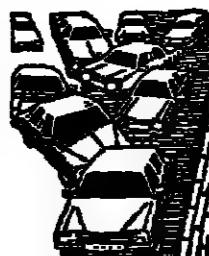


HEALTH p8
Nicholas
Soames tucks
into his new
ministry



LIFE & TIMES

FRIDAY JUNE 12 1992



MOTORING p9
Tiny titans
to end
the traffic
jam blues

True marriage admits impediment

The hardest things for a relationship to overcome are not only private misery but also adverse public scrutiny

Fever is a very long time. At its happiest, the intimate companionship of marriage is "the best thing life has to give", in the words of Bertrand Russell (who was a rotten husband, married four times). At its saddest, witnessed at the Expo concert in Seville, it presents the painful spectacle of two people who are emotionally miles apart.

You do not have to be a professional royal watcher or a vulture to notice such things. It is true that journalists do not, any more than poets, libertines and novelists, write much of marriages that last, or of couples who rub along together in harmony. To adapt Tolstoy, happy couples are all alike, and do not lend themselves to front page coverage. It is unhappy ones that are unmistakable, especially if they are on permanent public display, when it is hardly "intrusion" to remark upon them. What reporter would stampede to John Osborne's front door, if he had remained amably married to Pamela Lane for the past 40 years?

"Call it a good marriage," wrote Robert Graves in his poem of that name. "For no one ever questioned / Her warmth, his masculinity... They never fought in public! They acted circumstinctly / And faced the world with pride! Thus the hazards of their love-labour / Were none of our damned business — / Till as jurement we sat on / Two deaths by suicide."

As Nietzsche observed, it is not the lack of love, but lack of friendship, that makes unhappy marriages. After the first delirium, even the most passionate romances evolve into friendship, and when that goes, it is very hard to see what can be salvaged. Relate, the marriage guidance people, pose a question to those thinking of marrying but having doubts: "Would you want to be friends with this person, if you didn't love them?"

A strong friendship within marriage is the most resilient relationship on earth. Of the marriages that over the years have come under the merciless spotlight — the Parkinsons, Leo and Jilly Cooper's, and most recently the Spencers' brother and sister-in-law of the Princess of Wales — it can be said that they are admirable examples of restoration after damage. It is the hardest thing in the world to overcome not only private misery but adverse public exposure. They all know what it is like to be bruised, shaken, gossiped about. Jilly Cooper says that it is like having a handicapped child: "It is always there, for ever after. People survive it, and marriages do stay together, but it is never forgotten by anybody, least of all the press."

But their lives are never the same again. "Marriage under the spotlight is bloody," Mrs Cooper says. "And seeing it all in the press is awful — but not as awful as what went before." What is curious, and places press commentators in a dilemma, is that sometimes the participants in the drama are using the press to communicate with each other and express their hurt.

After the fuss is over — bloodied, smiling bravely, but never as happy again — what can a scrummed couple do? We all know, privately, many splendid marriages. A couple grin their teeth and reflect that they have a shared life, house, children, dogs, habits, memories; so they make the best of it, but they don't have to read about themselves, as



Public face, private stress of a marriage that has fascinated the world: the Prince and Princess of Wales, who is patron of Relate, the marriage guidance service

high-profile show business couples, politicians and royals inevitably do.

Mary Archer's dreadful year, when her famous appearance in the witness box established her as a public personality, was the making of her. If she could get through that, she could face anything. "I do feel that the steel entered my soul," she told me. "And it had stayed there." The self-control and mental composure required to present a happy face to the world after such a trial is not to be contemplated lightly. Last summer the Archers celebrated, with lavish pride, their 25th wedding anniversary.

We are accustomed to reading about aristocratic marriages (the Duff Coopers', the Macmillans') that disregarded convention, but last, Nigel Nicolson published *Portrait of a Marriage* in 1971, about his mother, Vita Sackville-West's, long affair with Violet Trefusis. Victoria Glendinning's biography further revealed Vita's insatiable appetite for new women, matched only by her husband, Harold Nicolson's, for new men. Yet throughout these adventures, they wrote to one another — sometimes thrice daily — protesting their love and dependence.

Philip Ziegler, in his life of the Mountbattens, concluded that in spite of their infidelities, "what kept them together was above all their belief in the family and their conviction that they were a unique partnership, that life could never offer the same possibilities and the same excitements in other company". "It's not my idea of marriage," Mr Ziegler told me at the time, "but if it suits both parties and works without victimising one of them, good luck to them."

When the Churchills were examined recently in television documentaries and in the account by John Pearson, Clementine was portrayed as being cold, neurotic, jealous and argumentative. But in a spirited defence entitled, "The truth about my grandparents (and why they slept apart)", Emma Soames remembered, as a child, watching her grandparents gazing at one another lovingly, forever stroking each other's hands and embracing. "They did indeed inhabit the sunlit uplands," she wrote. Such was the gap between the public myth and the private reality. The Churchills



Smiling through: (from left) Ann and Cecil Parkinson, Leo and Jilly Cooper, Mary and Jeffrey Archer



VALERIE GROVE

we have had... I couldn't live without you," she wrote. Behind their curtains were "the entrancing gossip of bedroom life, the crackles of annoyance, the candlelit battleground, the truces, the fun, the love, the rage".

Such accounts have a distinctly period flavour, because what most of us seek in marriage today is the perfect union. Cate Haste writes in her forthcoming book *Rules of Desire*, subtitled *Sex in Britain*, that modern couples' impossibly high expectations place a new stress on marriage. "When partners were asked to be 'everything' to each other — lovers, friends, mutual therapists — and marriage was

required to be the closest and deepest relationship in life, it was increasingly likely to fail to live up to the emotional demands placed on it." Ms Haste is so determined not to be defined by her own marriage to Melvyn Bragg that she has expunged all reference to him on her dustjacket.

But she is right: a long and contented marriage looks harder than ever to achieve, which is why queues form at Relate. The first thing the counsellors note is the body language of new clients. Do they move the chairs apart, and stare out of the window in opposite directions, avoiding the other's glance? If one dissolves in tears, does the other lean forward and hold a hand? The outward signs of disaffection are distressingly visible.

The Princess of Wales, who is patron of Relate, has watched counselling sessions. She has spoken of having seen the tears, the pain and heartbreak and "my heart goes out to them all", as she said in her recent speech when presenting an award to the Family of the Year. We also know that people who gravitate towards Relate as counsellors have often themselves known divorce in childhood (as did the princess) and want to understand more about relationships, and therefore about themselves. "The princess has a highly developed ability to get in touch with other people's pain," says Zelda West-

Meads, the spokeswoman for Relate.

The breakdown of trust in marriage is its toughest hurdle, even if it is just the failure to give support when it is needed. "If trust is a circle, there will always be a missing link," Mrs West-Meads says. "There is always loss. After it, a relationship will never be as good again. For most people, infidelity is the ultimate betrayal. It is not just the fact of thinking of your partner making love with someone else. It's about deception; the fact that they may have shared candlelit dinners while you were doing humdrum things with the children; the fact that they may have loved each other, and shared jokes and laughter. That is very hurtful; it is something people really agonise over, as much as the sexual element."

Mrs West-Meads thinks staying married is probably getting more difficult.

"I am not of the school that thinks divorce is easy. For most people I see, it is really an agonising. A man may lose not just his wife but his home, and day to day contact with his children, and his chief source of friends. Women can talk to their friends, but for many men, all he has is a squash partner. 'How are you old chap?' 'I'm fine, thank you.' But if around you there is quite a lot of divorce, people may not try as hard as they did a generation ago."

"More people stay married out of habit than out of love. But that depends on their being able to reach a situation without endless destructive arguments. I spend a lot of time counselling people about whether they want to settle for a marriage that isn't what they'd hoped for but is acceptable, or whether they really want to step out of the marriage and into the dark."

But trying to judge the marriages of others makes us all fallible. By the time Drusilla Beyfus's book *The English Marriage* came out, several of her interviewees had divorced. She concluded that there were no global generalisations to be made. "It seems to me that in marriage people speak for themselves alone. The marital tie remains the most personal, volatile and unclassifiable of human bonds."

You could list elements such as

When marriage was required to be the deepest relationship in life, it was likely to fail to live up to the demands placed on it'

personal contentment, mutual affection, tenderness, a tolerance of the other's idiosyncrasies, a pleasurable sex life, a sense of sharing; but not all good marriages involve all of these, and some appear to thrive on conflict.

Which is why the best bons mots about marriage tend to be wry and ironical. Agatha Christie, who was married to Sir Max Mallowan, the distinguished Egyptologist, told Beverly Nichols: "You know, Mr Nichols, every woman should marry an archaeologist, because she grows increasingly attractive to him as she grows increasingly to resemble a ruin."

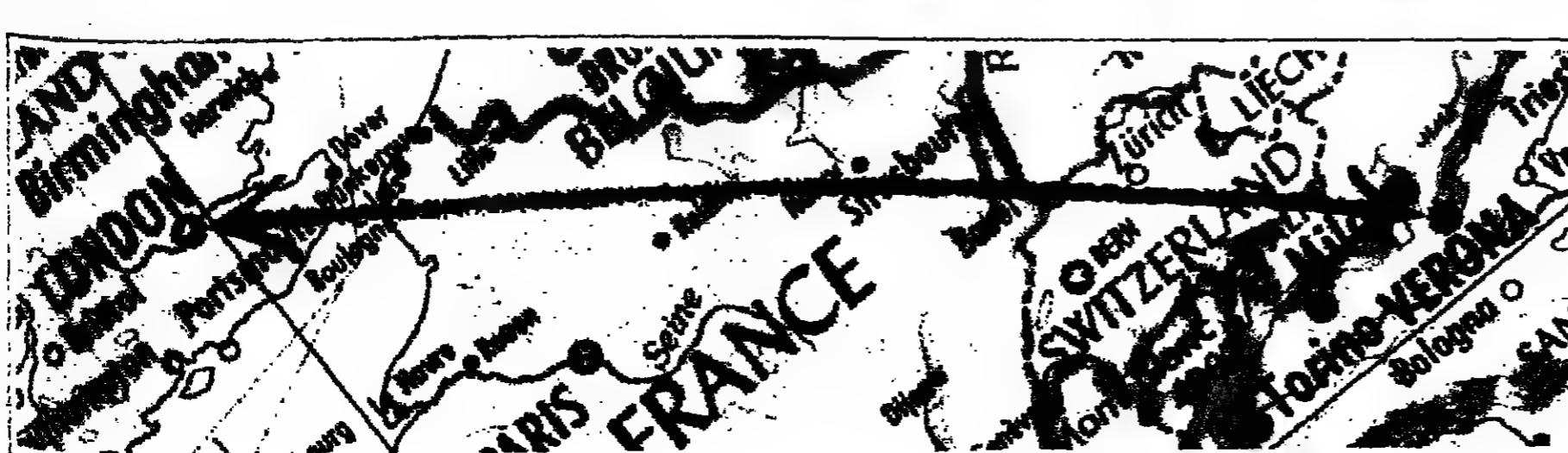
A most subjective thing, marriage. Those for whom it works wish for nothing more than what Cyril Connolly described as marriage's particular charm, the dialogue. "The permanent conversation of two people who talk over everything and everyone until death breaks the record." Shared commitment, the mysterious subsuming of egos, the fierce loyalty which only the protectiveness of parenthood can match; being liberated to be absolutely yourself; a foundation from which to cope with almost anything; these are the great glories of a sound marriage.

Glenys Kinnock, interviewed by Hunter Davies recently, described how she and Neil had driven back to London from his Iswyn constituency on election night, "not talking much". Complicit silence is a very important part of married life. In *The Power of Love* Celia Haddon wrote of her happy second marriage: "I think of it as a close friendship rather than some permanent romance... a kind of shelter against the unhappiness of the outside world, a comfort and a consolation."

The peaceable plateau of middle-aged marriage is the enviable stage celebrated at silver weddings: the Prince of Wales attended one this week, of his kinswoman Queen Margrethe of Denmark. Golden and even diamond weddings, such as that celebrated by Lord and Lady Longford last November, are an occasion for real jubilation. To observe the octogenarian Longfords out in public is to witness complete tolerance and affection. Lord Longford says: "I never think about our marriage at all. It's rather like asking how I manage to breathe."

His wife says the secret is to be a marriageable person. "Some people are and some are not. We both are, so it couldn't help but work." Neither has ever had a dull moment in the other's company. And perhaps that is the great secret. Who knows? Could Abelard and Heloise or Romeo and Juliet have survived scrutiny after 60 years? To reach the stage of contemplating the roses, lingering at the table for a long evening, driving along in companionable silence, laughing at the same jokes, being amused by the children, remembering the same anecdotes, reading in bed, and always wanting to be together: happy are those who have all this. And to be obliged to witness the painful obverse makes us truly pity those in the public eye who seem undistinguishably incapable, in their present partnership, of achieving it; and to wish them a happy solution.

TOMORROW
Home for the holidays:
the simple joys of
British beaches



We can fly 124 gentlemen to Verona.

Or gentlewomen, of course. We now fly daily from Gatwick to Verona. For details of this and our other luxury service to Florence, ring your travel agent or call us on 071 839 2222.

Meridiana
Your Private Airline

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Donizetti's "La fille du régiment" continues at the Covent Garden Opera House, 5pm, Friday, 12 June, £15-£25. Tel: 071-923 2222. **THE RENAISSANCE** An evening of English folk music, £12-£15, 7.30pm, 13 June, £15-£18. Tel: 071-923 2222. **WAGNER'S DER FLIEGENDE HOFER** Kiri Te Kanawa, tenor, a Graham Vick production of Wagner's "Die Walküre", Madam Butterfly, with Solti's La Scala cast, directed by Peter Hall, 7.30pm, 14 June, £15-£18. Tel: 071-923 2222. **COLISEUM** "Star-Spangled Banner", London WC2 071-855 3151, tonight, 7pm, tomorrow, 7.30pm. **SAMSON ET DALILA** Tomorrow the last performance of this year's admirable Muriel Barbery. **ROCKERS** offers the cheeky opportunity you are likely to get from the rock gods. **SACRED SONGS** Sam's choirmen in the orchestra seats are 25, so to avoid the queues, you can see the performances being relayed on the big screen in the Plaza Odeon Scindia 10, Fri 12 June, 7pm. Tel: 071-923 7500. **THE PHILHARMONIA** Cave Heart's new flap concert, "Cry from the Mind", features in the Birmingham concert and will be performed by James Galway, Sophia Bessen-Valeira and banjoist Thomas Moore. **JOHN LAMONT** William Williams' "Sinfonia Leonida" Staton conducts. On Sunday the orchestra is joined by pianist Barry Douglas for Tchaikovsky's Concerto in D major. **FAREWELL** the programme stays the same. **Symphony Hall**, Broad Street, Birmingham (021-212 3332), tomorrow, 7.30pm. **Festival Hall**, South Bank, London.

WEEKEND EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

London 521 071-638 8891, Sun, 7.30pm.

RICHARD THOMPSON: A fine singer, a superb songwriter and one of a handful of artists who can do it all. Richard Thompson has long been one of the overlooked treasures of English rock. Now enjoying an overdue measure of success. **Festival Hall**, South Bank, London SE1 071-782 8800, tomorrow, 7.30pm.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC: The Wendy Toye production of the sugary family musical ends its countryside tour and begins its winter run at the Victoria Palace Theatre. **LAWRENCE**: The doyen performances will be Liz Robertson as Maria, the singing nanny, chosen on film by Julie Andrews, and Christopher Cazenave as Captain von Trapp. **TRAPP**: The musical's director, Tom Morris, is 29, so to avoid the queues, you can see the performances being relayed on the big screen in the Plaza Odeon Scindia 10, Fri 12 June, 7pm. Tel: 071-923 7500.

LARRY ADLER: The veteran harmonica player and raconteur joins the Milton Keynes Chamber Orchestra and local players in a concert in a gala concert in aid of the charity children's **Church of Christ the Cornerstone**, Milton Keynes (Box Office 0908 623 632). Tickets at £25 include a champagne and buffet reception.

NIGEL HUTCHISON: The young Scottish pianist who finished his studies

at the Juilliard School in New York, returning to first place here after degree from the University of Glasgow, and training at the Guildhall School in London, gives an afternoon recall of works by Beethoven (Sonata No 25, Op 78), Bartók (Three Romances, Op 12), Chopin (Ballade No 1) and three Mazurkas Op 59 and Rachmaninoff (Sonata No 2, Op 36).

GRENEWICH FESTIVAL: The highlights of the week end include an evening with veteran British actor Sir John Mills ("Greene's Travelling Companions", 8pm), leading black dance troupe Phoenix Dance Company in a mixed programme including a new work by American choreographic duo Shape and Smack (Greenwich Borough Hall, tonight, 8pm), and the innovative **Quatuor Ebène** playing 20th century music by Lalo, Popp, Balanescu, Part and Nyman (St Alpheus Church, Sun, 8pm, Greenwich Festival (Box Office: 081-317 8867).

BALLET DU RHIN: Sadler's Wells is presenting the British company in **Requiem** at the Royal Opera House in Stratford. The two-week season ends with a reconstruction of the original choreography and score of *La File mal gardée*, which has undergone many changes since its first performance in London in 1789.

SADLER'S WELLS: *Aladdin*, a new production by the Royal Ballet, opens at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 071-240 1066, 7.30pm.

ENTERTAINERS: *Cave Heart's* new flap concert, "Cry from the Mind", features in the Birmingham concert and will be performed by James Galway, Sophia Bessen-Valeira and banjoist Thomas Moore. **JOHN LAMONT** William Williams' "Sinfonia Leonida" Staton conducts. On Sunday the orchestra is joined by pianist Barry Douglas for Tchaikovsky's Concerto in D major. **FAREWELL** the programme stays the same. **Symphony Hall**, Broad Street, Birmingham (021-212 3332), tomorrow, 7.30pm. **Festival Hall**, South Bank, London.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only

■ Some seats available

■ Seats at all prices

■ THE MERCHANT OF VENICE III: *Hugh Whitemore* gives us the stricken king in Alan Bennett's intriguing, slightly puzzling play. National (lyric), South Bank, SE1 071-928 2252, Friday, 13 June, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, tomorrow, 4.15pm.

■ ENDLESS SUMMER NIGHTS: *Dream* (Mike Tabor's cello production, full of touch and tumble and evergreen comedy, Dürsland Lunden plays Bottom, Open Air, Regent's Park, NW1 071-485 2431, Friday, 13 June, 8pm, 8.15pm, 10.15pm.

■ MOBY DICK: A girls' school puts on a fund-raising show. *Tony Monopoly* (John Nettles' headless, bawdy Captain Ahab Beachcomber musical, Piccadilly, Denmark Street, W1 071-267 1181) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Tues, 4pm, 1.30pm.

■ POND LIFE: Touching performances by a young cast in Richard Cameron's quiet drama of teenagers angling for fame, *Angler* (John Nettles' Captain Blunt, Shepherd's Bush Green, W1 071-743 3388) Mon-Sat, 8pm, 10.15pm.

■ PYJAMALAND: *Alan Howard*, Frances Barber in a Howard Davies production that some admire greatly while others feel subordinates the best to a class clown. *Pyjama Land* (John Nettles' Captain Ahab, South Bank, SE1 071-928 2252, Friday, 13 June, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, tomorrow, 8pm, 10.15pm.

■ THE RULES OF THE GAME: *Richard Griffiths* and Nicola Pagett in Prandell's sordid study of marital review, not as serious as it could be but still a gripping drama. *Pyjama Land* (John Nettles' Captain Ahab, South Bank, SE1 071-928 2252, Friday, 13 June, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, tomorrow, 8pm, 10.15pm.

■ MAD, BAD AND DANGEROUS TO KNOW: *Pauline McLynn* presents wisecracks, saucy songs and plenty of dedicated followers of *Jacobs*. Ambassador's West Street, WC2 (071-636 6111) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 3pm, 10.15pm.

■ HEARTBREAK HOUSE: *Paul Scofield* and Vanessa Redgrave head *Tristan and Isolde* (the second of Sophie's three-act series of England plays). Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 071-930 0022, Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 8pm, 10.15pm.

■ THE GHOST SONATA: *Stephen's* wacky version of human greed becomes a fascinating exercise of cross-examination. *This Way* (Beggar's production, New End, 27 New End, NW1 071-794 0022), Tues-Sun, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8pm, 10.15pm.

■ HEART IN IV, PARTS 1&2: *Adrian Noble's* triumphant, life-of-a-passage production: fine acting from Julian Glover's father, David, and his son, Michael Byrne.

■ THE FASTEST CLOCK IN THE HOUSE: *Stephen's* production of *Gas* by Philip Glass, with characters played by Foster, Darling and Sherbet Gravel. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Avenue, NW3 071-722 9301, Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 8pm, 10.15pm.

■ THE GHOST SONATA: *Stephen's* wacky version of human greed becomes a fascinating exercise of cross-examination. *This Way* (Beggar's production, New End, 27 New End, NW1 071-794 0022), Tues-Sun, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8pm, 10.15pm.

■ MAD, BAD AND DANGEROUS TO KNOW: *Pauline McLynn* presents wisecracks, saucy songs and plenty of dedicated followers of *Jacobs*. Ambassador's West Street, WC2 (071-636 6111) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 3pm, 10.15pm.

■ NEW RELEASES

JOHNNY SUÈDE: Unlikely urban farce about a lone innocent (Brad Pitt) in a cocky, downbeat love while dreaming of success as a pop star. *Tom DiCillo* directs. Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) Chelsea 071-351 3743/3745) Gateshead 071-484 0009. *Open* Oxford Street (071-636 0310).

■ STRANGE TALES: *Dolly Parton* as a dirty Arkansas divorcee who comes to town and hits the big time, masquerading as a radio psychologist. Directed by *Bartel*. *Kilmarnock*.

■ BASIC INSTINCT (18): *San Francisco* detective Michael Douglas and ice-pick murderer Sharon Stone have a sordid psycho-sexual rollercoaster. Director, *Paul Verhoeven*.

■ BILLY ECKSTAD (15): *Barbican* (071-638 9111) *MGM Barker* (071-923 2222) *Almeida* (071-923 2222) *Lyric* (071-923 2222) *Regent* (071-923 0631) *MGM Shaftesbury Avenue* (071-636 7379/7329) *MGM* (071-434 0031) *Notting Hill Coronet* (071-727 0705) *Odeon* (071-923 0622) *Piccadilly* (071-923 0666) *Mezzanine* (0289 915631) *Plaza* (071-497 9999) *Screen on the Green* (071-726 3520) *UCI Whitley* (071-792 3322).

■ THE LONG DAY CLOSES (12): *Terence Davies'* powerful evocation of

childhood's lost paradise. With *Leigh McCormick*, *Maguire*, *Yates* and a wonderful rural college of *Frites*. Britain. *Curzon* West End (071-439 4805).

■ THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE (15): *Psychotic nanny Debbie De Mornay* plots revenge on a squeaky-clean family, formula writer with rock star mom, *Amberle Sloane*; director, *Carrie* (071-923 0631) *MGM* (071-636 0310) *MGM Oxford Street* (071-636 0310) *MGM Kensington* (0426 914666) *Mezzanine* (0289 915631) *Regent* (071-923 0631) *UCI Whitley* (071-792 3322).

■ THE LAWMAKING MAN (18): *Peter Brook's* computers turn a simpleton (Jeffrey) into a cyber-monster. New technology jamboree laid low by a maddest script director, Brett Leonard.

■ CARAVAN (15): *Stephen Frears*

■ THE LANDLORD (15): *Mike Leigh* (071-923 0631) *MGM Shaftesbury Avenue* (071-636 7379/7329) *MGM* (071-434 0031) *Notting Hill Coronet* (071-727 0705) *Odeon* (071-923 0622) *Piccadilly* (071-923 0666) *Mezzanine* (0289 915631) *Plaza* (071-497 9999) *Screen on the Green* (071-726 3520) *UCI Whitley* (071-792 3322).

■ THE LONG DAY CLOSES (12): *Terence Davies'* powerful evocation of

childhood's lost paradise. With *Leigh McCormick*, *Maguire*, *Yates* and a wonderful rural college of *Frites*. Britain. *Curzon* West End (071-439 4805).

■ THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE (15): *Psychotic nanny Debbie De Mornay* plots revenge on a squeaky-clean family, formula writer with rock star mom, *Amberle Sloane*; director, *Carrie* (071-923 0631) *MGM* (071-636 0310) *MGM Kensington* (0426 914666) *Mezzanine* (0289 915631) *Regent* (071-923 0631) *UCI Whitley* (071-792 3322).

■ THE LANDLORD (15): *Mike Leigh* (071-923 0631) *MGM Shaftesbury Avenue* (071-636 7379/7329) *MGM* (071-434 0031) *Notting Hill Coronet* (071-727 0705) *Odeon* (071-923 0622) *Piccadilly* (071-923 0666) *Mezzanine* (0289 915631) *Plaza* (071-497 9999) *Screen on the Green* (071-726 3520) *UCI Whitley* (071-792 3322).

■ THE LONG DAY CLOSES (12): *Terence Davies'* powerful evocation of

childhood's lost paradise. With *Leigh McCormick*, *Maguire*, *Yates* and a wonderful rural college of *Frites*. Britain. *Curzon* West End (071-439 4805).

■ STRANGE TALES: *Dolly Parton* as a dirty Arkansas divorcee who comes to town and hits the big time, masquerading as a radio psychologist. Directed by *Bartel*. *Kilmarnock*.

■ BASIC INSTINCT (18): *San Francisco* detective Michael Douglas and ice-pick murderer Sharon Stone have a sordid psycho-sexual rollercoaster. Director, *Paul Verhoeven*.

■ BILLY ECKSTAD (15): *Barbican* (071-638 9111) *MGM Barker* (071-923 2222) *Almeida* (071-923 2222) *Lyric* (071-923 2222) *Regent* (071-923 0631) *Shadesbury Avenue* (071-636 7379/7329) *MGM* (071-434 0031) *Notting Hill Coronet* (071-727 0705) *Odeon* (071-923 0622) *Piccadilly* (071-923 0666) *Mezzanine* (0289 915631) *Plaza* (071-497 9999) *Screen on the Green* (071-726 3520) *UCI Whitley* (071-792 3322).

■ THE LONG DAY CLOSES (12): *Terence Davies'* powerful evocation of

childhood's lost paradise. With *Leigh McCormick*, *Maguire*, *Yates* and a wonderful rural college of *Frites*. Britain. *Curzon* West End (071-439 4805).

■ STRANGE TALES: *Dolly Parton* as a dirty Arkansas divorcee who comes to town and hits the big time, masquerading as a radio psychologist. Directed by *Bartel*. *Kilmarnock*.

■ BASIC INSTINCT (18): *San Francisco* detective Michael Douglas and ice-pick murderer Sharon Stone have a sordid psycho-sexual rollercoaster. Director, *Paul Verhoeven*.

■ BILLY ECKSTAD (15): *Barbican* (071-638 9111) *MGM Barker* (071-923 2222) *Almeida* (071-923 2222) *Lyric* (071-923 2222) *Regent* (071-923 0631) *Shadesbury Avenue* (071-636 7379/7329) *MGM* (071-434 0031) *Notting Hill Coronet* (071-727 0705) *Odeon* (071-923 0622) *Piccadilly* (071-923 0666) *Mezzanine* (0289 915631) *Plaza* (071-497 9999) *Screen on the Green* (071-726 3520) *UCI Whitley* (071-792 3322).

■ THE LONG DAY CLOSES (12): *Terence Davies'* powerful evocation of

childhood's lost paradise. With *Leigh McCormick*, *Maguire*, *Yates* and a wonderful rural college of *Frites*. Britain. *Curzon* West End (071-439 4805).

■ STRANGE TALES: *Dolly Parton* as a dirty Arkansas divorcee who comes to town and hits the big time, masquerading as a radio psychologist. Directed by *Bartel*. *Kilmarnock*.

■ BASIC INSTINCT (18): *San Francisco* detective Michael Douglas and ice-pick murderer Sharon Stone have a sordid psycho-sexual roller

Alison Beckett tells the romantic story behind an exceptional show of ceramics in London this weekend

Tuileries touch in Teesdale

Teesside, County Durham, is an unlikely setting for a French chateau, let alone one purpose-built as a museum, chock-a-block with a vast array of continental art treasures. Nor would one expect to find a blue-blooded scandal there. But the Bowes Museum, near the market town of Barnard Castle, was the dream of a glamorous Parisian actress last century, and it is little-known but very decorative skeleton in the cupboard of the Queen Mother's family.

On Wednesday the museum's centenary was marked with a local carnival procession of replica papier-mâché artworks, and an exquisite loan display from the Musée des Arts Décoratifs will be one of the main attractions of the International Ceramics Fair & Seminar which begins in London today.

Ceramics were a passion of "Mlle Delorme", as she was known on the stage — her real name was Sophie Josephine Coffin-Chevalier — and her husband John Bowes, who fell in love with her after buying the theatre where she acted in Montmartre. Bowes, the illegitimate son of an English earl, was a successful businessman, MP and racehorse owner; he had fled to Paris in 1847 to escape the stigma of his birth. For he was ostracised by British high society even though his father, the colourful 10th Earl of Strathmore and elder brother of the present Queen Mother's great-great-grandfather, had hurriedly married his mistress, an employee on his estate, only hours before he died.

Bowes and Sophie, as she preferred to be called, could have lived out their lives in comfortable oblivion. Instead the couple began collecting pottery and porcelain — more than 3,000 pieces from the 16th century onwards — as they holidayed lavishly around Europe.

Indeed, their collection seems to celebrate a life in social exile, and blows an exquisite raspberry at the British establishment of the day. A parallel with the Duchess of Windsor's lifelong hoarding of superb jewellery comes irresistibly to mind.

The pieces on show at this weekend's Ceramics Fair, predominantly French, include one of the finest groups of Sèvres in the world, from the time when the factory's chief client and salesman was Louis XV himself.

Sophie, the daughter of a clockmaker and an aspiring painter as well as an actress, hankered to become an art patron. So, when they had no children, she proposed the museum as a memorial to her



From Teesside to Piccadilly (clockwise from top left): Meissen teapot, circa 1730; Sèvres cup and saucer, 1788; Sèvres teapot of 1758; Plate painted with a mythological scene, Paris circa 1810, decorated by Halley. All at the Park Lane Hotel from today until Monday

husband on his home ground. To set the project in motion she sold the Château Dubarry which he had given her as a wedding present (formerly a gift from Louis XV to his last mistress), and quickly became known as a mean negotiator, rarely spending more than £10 on a single item.

The museum, from its architecture to its content and its decentralised site, was based entirely on French example. Sophie wanted to provide a collection of fine and decorative arts such as Teesside had never seen before.

The north of England had few museums anyway, and most at that time specialised in natural history and archaeology. Art institutions tended to concentrate on temporary exhibitions.

As a result, she and her husband created the most important decorative arts collection outside the Victoria & Albert Museum: today it is housed in 30 galleries including 13 period rooms. Sadly, neither founder lived to see the museum opened to the public on June 10, 1892.

Such Sèvres porcelain is now inordinately rare, costing anything between £1,000 and £50,000 or more — although a number (not from the Bowes Collection) will be on sale at the fair, among them a selection of 18th-century cups, saucers and jugs from a private collection acquired by fair organiser Brian Haughton.

And the Bowes family scandal has had a happy ending. The Queen Mother, as patron of the Friends of the Bowes Museum, is now one of its biggest fans and has lent many of her own outfits for a centenary exhibition later this month, including her wedding dress and the celebrated white wardrobe from her 1938 state visit to France.

● The International Ceramics Fair & Seminar, Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, London W1 (Information: 071-734 5491), June 12-15.

● Royal Style — The Queen Mother's Wardrobe, The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, County Durham (0833 690606), June 27 — September 13.

● The Bowes Museum, published this week by Scala Books at £12.95.

● Richard Cork's weekly galleries review appears on page 4

No longer an enfant but still in Paradis

David Robinson meets Marcel Carné, the inveterate French film-maker who is still working in his eighties

Older reference books insist that Marcel Carné was born in 1903. A more likely date now appears to be August 1906, but the doubt remains: the price of Carné's own years of secrecy on the matter.

Either way — 85 or 88 — this is an impressive time of life to direct a feature film with a budget of FFS2 million (£5.3m). Carné begins principal photography next month on a Franco-German-Italian coproduction: *Mouche*. Adapted from de Maupassant, the story is about five young friends who fall in love with the same girl during a holiday on the Seine, in 1875. The *femme fatale* is to be played by 15-year-old Virginie Ledoyen. Carné says that the visual style of the film will be influenced by the compositions and colours of the Impressionists and Renoir and Monet are walk-on characters.

Carné last made a feature film — *La Bible* — 15 years ago. In the interim he has been directing spectacular image-and-sound extravaganzas in Lourdes, Rome and Martinique.

He has been in pictures for 65 years. In 1928 he became assistant to the director Jacques Feyder, and in 1929 made his directorial debut with a documentary, *Nogent, Eldorado du Dimanche*.

His lasting fame is as director of the best-loved of all French films, *Les Enfants du Paradis*. This was, however, only one of an unbroken run of films which Carné made in the Thirties and Forties and which have become a part of cinema legend and the French cultural patrimony.

The titles are instantly evocative: *Le Quai des Brumes*, *L'Hôtel du Nord*, *Le Jour se lève*, *Les Visiteurs du Soir* and *Les Portes de la Nuit*. These films, with their "poetic fatalism", reflect the changing psychology of the nation through a decade that saw the Front Populaire, the second world war and occupation, and the postwar adjustment.

The great Carné films were all scripted by the scenarist Jacques Prévert. For both artists, this creative collaboration produced their finest work. Carné's craftsmanship and unsparing demand for perfection — the legacy, perhaps of early training as a cabinet maker — complemented Prévert's instinctual approach.

After their collaboration ended, Carné's reputation declined. His classical style and old-fashioned professionalism were anathema to the critics and filmmakers of the Sixties' New Wave; and he found himself an outsider in the modern French cinema.

He has lived long enough to see a historical reversal. Today the survival of French cinema appears to depend on the few glamorous, big-budget, exportable productions such as *Jean de Florette* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*, and on the sort of classical film craft that Carné stubbornly defended in defiance of changing fashion.

He was at the recent Cannes Festival to promote *Mouche* — tiny but stocky, bouncy, dapper and talkative. Whatever his age, he did not look it.

In one respect at least, however, his brave determination to move with the times must chill the hearts of his admirers. He has approved the "colorisation" of *Les Enfants du Paradis* as well as the other classic films whose magic lay in their haunting black and white images. "I like novelty", he says cheerfully.



Carné is he 85 or 88?

Until Saturday 27th June, buy any current chart CD from Our Price Music and you'll save £5.00 on any one of 75 essential CDs displaying one of the special stickers. Simply choose your

chart CD, then select one of our 75 essential albums and the £5.00 will be deducted from the marked price at the till.

Some albums include: CLANNAD PAST PRESENT • EURYTHMICS GREATEST HITS • ELVIS PRESLEY ALL THE GREATEST HITS • LISA STANSFIELD AFFECTION • BOYZ DANCING CLOSER IN SOUNDTRACK • BEACH BOYS SUMMER DREAMS • DAVID BOWIE CHANGES • CARTER USHIM SO SOMETHING • CROWDED HOUSE WOODFACE • SINÉAD O'CONNOR I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT • PINK FLOYD DARK SIDE OF THE MOON • QUEEN GREATEST HITS VOL 1 • INDIEKATE LOOK SHINE • TINA TURNER SIMPLY THE BEST • FAITH NO MORE THE REAL THING • BEAUTIFUL SOUTH 0998 • L7 HEAVY HEAVY • BOB MARLEY LEGEND • R.E.M. ADDITIONS • CHER LOVE HURTS • GUNN THE APPRENTICE • ROBIN TOWERS THE COASTAL GROWLER • PATTI LABELLE PRETTY INTO THE GREAT WIDE OPEN • BLACK CROWES SHAKE YOUR MONEY MAKER • ENRICO STRAUSSEN ON EVERY STREET • GALLIANO IN PURSUIT OF FAME • JOHN LEWIS HOOKER HEALER • LEVELLERS LEVELLING THE LAND • PRIMAL SCREAM SCREAMADELICA • RIBE GOING BLANK AGAIN • STONE ROSES STONE ROSES • PAVAROTTI ESSENTIAL II • JAMES BROWN BEST OF • ERIC CLAPTON BEST OF • BBM HENDRIX CORNERSTONES • VAN MORRISON BEST OF • WONDERSTUFF NEVER LOVED EYES • DEPECHE MODE SINGLES • PIXIES TROUBLE LE MONDE • MICHAEL BOLTON SOUL PROVIDER • MARIAH CAREY MARIAH CAREY • BEVERLEY CRAVEN BEVERLEY CRAVEN • MILES DAVIS KIND OF BLUE • GEORGE MICHAEL LISTEN WITHOUT PREJUDICE • PEARL JAM TBT • PAUL YOUNG BEST OF • BELINDA CARLISLE LIVE YOUR LIFE BE FREE • JELLYFISH BILLYBUTTON • MASSIVE ATTACK BLUE LINES • OMED BEST OF • UB40 BEST OF VOLUME 1 • LENNY KRAVITZ MAMA SAID • ENYA COUPIC THING • DODGERS BEST OF • ENYA WATERMARK • CHRIS ISAAK WICKED GAME • CHRISTY MOORE COLLECTION • INQUISITION BEST OF • CHRIS REA ROAD TO HELL • IRISH GREEN • REN OUT OF TIME • SEAL SEAL • SIMPLY RED NEW FLAME • ROD STEWART BEST OF • NEIL YOUNG WILD

* Top 40, Recommended Releases and on various new releases

(Subject to availability)

Towering above a material world

London Galleries: Shirazeh Houshiary's startling exhibition of sculptures at the Lisson Gallery, and the eerie installations of the international biennale Edge 92, reviewed by Richard Cork

Viewed from the outside, the largest sculpture in Shirazeh Houshiary's exhibition could hardly be darker or more severe. Slabs of sombre aluminium stretch up from the floor to the gallery ceiling, as remote and forbidding as Richard Serra at his most austere. But then we notice the gap in this awesome facade, and realise that Houshiary is inviting us to enter the sculpture and explore its mysterious interior.

Narrow enough to make the more corpulent of visitors wonder if they can squeeze in, the gap leads through to a wholly different experience. Once inside, the hard assertion of material bulk drops away. We find ourselves standing in a burnished, copper-lined chamber. The deep orange glow provides warmth after the coldness of the exterior, and the glass ceiling above ensures that light seeps into the tall interior passage.

If we walk to the far end of the passage though, our reflections in the copper walls grow faint. The glow envelope us, and the entire space seems to be suffused with an amber mist. If the interior resembles a burial vault, there is no threat of claustrophobia or extinction. Quite the reverse: the copper induces a feeling of beneficence as the walls close round us in a protective embrace.

Houshiary calls her sculpture *Isthmus*, a title that suggests the idea of an intermediary space connecting two different states. By encouraging us to move from the outside to inside, she sets up the possibility of a journey from the body to the spirit. The finite world, represented by the dour and unyielding aluminium exterior, gives way to the infinite vastness of the copper within. *Isthmus* asks us to contemplate a state of being no longer dependent on corporeal solidity.

By using sculpture to move from materiality towards a spiritual realm, Houshiary's work proclaims links with the concerns of Anish Kapoor. Like him, she confronted the challenge of fusing a non-Western upbringing with the culture of her adopted country. Having lived in Persia until the age of eight, and later studied at Chelsea School of Art, Houshiary still feeds off the world she left behind in Shiraz. But her art is informed by an alert awareness of Western sculpture as well, and the balance between the two gives her Lisson Gallery show a singular tension.

The references to angels and beating wings in her previous exhibition have been replaced, here, by the stillness of architectural forms. If *Isthmus* resembles a vault, the far smaller sculpture lying on the floor nearby looks like the scale model of a one-storey house filled with a grid of rectangular rooms. Some of these spaces are made of lead, recalling the darkness of *Isthmus*'s exterior. But others are lined with copper, and they give *Bright Night in Dark Day* the warmth of a honeycomb. Moreover, the sculpture's regularity is disrupted as the rooms slope down to the centre. Geometric order gives way to a more organic alternative, capable perhaps of generating life.

'Geometric order gives way to a more organic alternative'

All the same, Houshiary stops well short of introducing overt figurative images into her show. She may call the third sculpture *Cube of Man*, but it turns out to be more like a tower. Composed of units as repetitive as Brancusi's *Endless Column*, the sculpture is again made of lead. This time, though, the material is enlivened by a mother-of-pearl sheen, and the top and bottom of each projecting unit covered with gold leaf. The tower therefore takes on a gleaming, bullion-like allure, but Houshiary has no intention of equating her sculpture with acquisitive values. Like *Isthmus* before it, *Cube of Man* leaves us in the end with a sense of incorporeal mystery: the tower terminates just before the ceiling, allowing the gold-leaf apex to cast a numinous disc of yellow light on the white plaster above.

Houshiary's preoccupation with disembodied colour may be leading her, for a while at least, away from sculpture. Her other room, on a lower floor, is given over entirely to a series of large mixed-media drawings. The forms within the five images hover on the walls like planets floating in the cosmos. They give the space the aura of a chapel, fine-

as we walk down the passage leading to the main gallery space, the exhibit first manifests itself as sound. The hiss of rushing air is heard, released in energetic bursts. Then, as we turn the corner into the room, the source of this insistent noise becomes dramatically apparent.

Steam billows up from a rectangular metal container in the centre of the floor. Spout from several sides, it takes on the thickness of smoke while rising towards a metal hood. A suction mechanism must be built into the hood, preventing the steam from spreading outwards. For we find ourselves drawn towards these mesmerising walls of air, and our own bodies become part of the work as the lights fling our shadows across the corners of the gallery.

On one level, this strange installation seems intent on countering the starkness of the surrounding room – just as Houshiary offsets coldness with warmth in *Isthmus*. But Finn-Kelcey also manages to evoke some remorseless, gruelling work-process:



Shirazeh Houshiary with *Cube of Man*: a work of bullion-like allure and incorporeal mystery

steam-filled kitchens servicing garrulous customers demand a restaurant beyond, or a colossal machine forever pressing clothes.

There is something oppressive about the endless, pointless generation of all this hot air, and yet the sheer spectacle commands respect. An almost theatrical experience is created with the most ephemeral of means. They become, against all the odds, a source of wonder.

Finn-Kelcey's memorable show is part of Edge 92, an "international biennale of innovative visual art"

JUZO ITAMI, the Japanese director of the comedy film *Tampopo* and *A Taste of Honey*, has been ambushed and stabbed in the face in Tokyo. The attack came six days after the opening of his new film, *The Gangster's Moll*, an exposé of the "yakuza" – the Japanese Mafia – with advice on how to resist their extortion and intimidation. The yakuza was declared illegal earlier this year, but still exercises great influence in politics and business. Police believe that Itami was punished for ridiculing the organisation.

Greek appeal

NEVER one to shrink from championing a cause, Melina Mercouri – the tempestuous Greek actress turned politician – is in London this month for a charity concert. Nothing to do with the Elgin Marbles this time, however: the former Greek minister of culture will be appearing at Wembley Arena on June 27 for an "Aid for Cyprus" event, part of a campaign calling for reunification of the island. Also in the concert will be one of Greece's leading singer-songwriters, George Dalaras.

Tolstoy danced

THE MARYINSKY Ballet in St Petersburg has raised the odd eyebrow by turning to a Western choreographer (albeit one of Russian parentage) in order to stage a classic Russian subject, *Annie Karenina*. He is Andre Prokovsky, born in Paris and based in London for most of his dancing career. His treatment of Tolstoy's novel has a score adapted by Guy Woolfenden from Tchaikovsky's music. It was created in 1979 for the Australian Ballet, with Galina Ulanova in the title role. The St Petersburg premiere is set for January 28, 1993.

Last chance . . .

LORENZO de' Medici ("Il Magnifico") died 500 years ago, and an exhibition organised by the Italian Institute in association with the Warburg Institute marks the anniversary. It concentrates particularly on his role as a patron, collector and arbiter of taste. But he is also placed in the wider context of the Italian Renaissance, and much is done to explain the commanding position of Florence at this period. Last showing today at the Italian Cultural Institute, 39 Belgrave Square, SW1 (071-235 1461), 9.30-5.

LONDON CONCERTS

Untimely top notes

Sumi Jo/
Raul Gimenez
Barbican

THE London Opera Festival, which used to be little more than a sponsor's umbrella for existing operatic events in the capital, with the addition of one or two refugees from defunct festivals, is beginning to develop a distinct and lively profile of its own. The more pity then, that this year's generally enterprising festival should start with an event which did little to reflect the state of the art, and everything to reinforce the negative images and prejudices which still exist.



Sumi Jo: a soprano voice of striking purity and agility

agility that she invariably steals away the wits of all who hear her.

She is an unsurpassable Queen of the Night and Olympia; but her recent Elvira in Covent Garden's *Puritani* showed the voice's limitations in strength, stamina and expressive scope. She wisely left Bellini alone in this recital and offered a clutch of Rossini

Echo of the past

I Fagiolini
Christ Church
Spitalfields

AS MUSICAL taste has reverted to the Renaissance, so a body of composers has emerged which favours a language directly descended from the Renaissance via the 19th century. Many are young: in Britain John Taverner, whose ritual *Eis Thanatos* will be heard at the end of this Spitalfields Festival, is their senior representative. But whoever they are, they tread a dangerous path, risking a charge of reactionism if their music fails to light a spiritual candle.

On Monday, the seven young singers of the vocal ensemble I Fagiolini gave works by two such composers.

One, Ivan Moody's *El Amor la Sierra* (1991), four carefully

considered settings of texts by Lorca, Machado, the 15th-century poet Gil Vicente and an anonymous contemporary, just failed to seek out those magic corners of the soul. Consequently, despite the composer's imaginative use of medieval-sounding techniques and sonorities, the music seemed a touch worthy, though also beautiful and with a dolorous Hispanic flavour.

On the other hand, Gabriel Jackson's *Enjoyment (A Modern Madrigal)*, receiving its first performance, enveloped the audience with dignified, tragic power. Richard George Elliott's text, which I Fagiolini's director Robert Hollingsworth stressed, had been part and parcel of the commission, parades a medieval courtly love song in sentiment if not form; but the discarded lover in whose person it is written comes from today and has strayed. The lines "I have poisoned your blood/and betrayed you in ways you have yet to imagine" could as well be literal as metaphorical in these risky times.

Jackson's responses sometimes err on the side of naivety – strident parallel intervals for strident emotions, and sour-sweet major-minor clashes all the way through – but his music, mostly syllabic and chordal, breathes intuition and genuineness. The composer knows he has something to say, and he says it with directness and clarity. He affects us because most of us are familiar with his subject in one way or another.

For the rest, I Fagiolini sang various polyphonic chansons, beginning slightly uncertainly balanced with Josquin's touching lament *Cœurs desolez*, but settling well for the same composer's great elegy for Ockeghem, *Nimphes des bois*. In Gombert's *Chansons propres* they failed to keep the busy six-part texture adequately light but for Arcadelt's *En ce mois deliceux* and Sermisy's lovely *Au joli boy* they showed a promising delicacy and poise, while Janequin's *La Chasse* was pure theatrical indulgence.

STEPHEN PITTITT

• The Spitalfields Festival continues until June 26, when the final concert will be the London premiere of John Taverner's *Eis Thanatos*. All performances are in Christ Church, London E1 (071-377 1362).

TELEVISION REVIEW

Science hell-bent on holding power

LIKE a palatial Wurlitzer organ piercing the Moscow sky, the Gosplan building, heart of the former Soviet Union's grand economic plan, dominated last night's first instalment of *Pandora's Box* (BBC 2), a series of "six fables about politics and power in the age of science". From one window, a beaming planner looked down upon the scurrying pedestrians. Each one different, he remarked to camera: but all reassuringly subject to the same immutable rules of behaviour, "as iron as the laws of nature".

I was reminded of Isaac Asimov's *Foundation* books in which the course of the universe is mathematically plotted by a brilliant psycho-historian. Yet this was sober truth, not whimsical fiction. So resolutely had the world turned its back on deterministic views of history in the last decade, that one easily forgets how basic such views have been to much 20th century thinking.

Adam Curtis's film explored the Soviets' 70-year fascination with planning and its perverse ideological debt to science, with a panache that augurs well for the series. Lenin's belief that "communism is Soviet power plus electricity" sowed the seeds of an appalling technocracy: society was seen as a controllable machine and man a component to be rationalised.

Scientists were the pioneers of this new revolutionary age, a powerful priesthood who pondered the mysteries of social engineering to the strains of bleak, electrically-generated "rational music".

MATTHEW D'ANCONA

Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother

The Grosvenor House Antiques Fair

THE ANTIQUE DEALERS FAIR

10th - 20th June 1992

Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London W1

Celebrating 1492-1992:
500 Years of American Patronage

Opening Times:
Daily: 11am - 8pm
Weekends: 11am - 6pm
Children under five not admitted
Admission including Handbook: £13
20th June only: £6 excluding Handbook

Advance Tickets, excluding Charity Gala:
Contact TICKETMASTER on 071-413 1419
24 hours, 7 days a week

Enquiries:
Tel: 0799-526699 or, from 6th June, 071-629 0024

The musical lovers' musical

CARMEN JONES

WINNER BEST Musical
Olivier Awards 1992

BEST Musical
Standard Drama Awards 1991

BEST Musical
Critics' Circle Awards 1991

BEST Director of a Musical
Olivier Awards 1992

THE OLD VIC
071 928 7616
Some seats available
EMI
London Cast Recording Available

SUMMER EXHIBITION "The Four Georges"

Fine examples of Cabinet making and Furnishing spanning the period 1714 to 1830 in room settings

UNTIL JUNE 27th

W.R Harvey & Co (Antiques) Ltd.,
No 5 Old Bond Street, London W1X 3TA
Telephone: 071-499 8385 Fax: 071-495 0209
Daily except Sunday, from 10.00am to 5.30pm

DIRECT
STABILISER**Lalique
crystal
legacy**

LES ACHATS

MARIE-CLAUDE Lalique, heiress to her grandfather's artistic genius, has brought out two new collections of accessories which pay tribute to the outstanding beauty of René Lalique's original designs. In either silver or gold-plated settings, the crystal jewellery captures the milky luminescence which is the Lalique trademark. In 14 colours from sapphire to lilac to emerald, the pieces are priced from FF 690 French francs (£70) for a ring to FF 950 for a pair of cufflinks to FF 350 for a bracelet.

Mme Lalique's is also producing pure silk scarves printed with designs based on some of her grandfather's best-loved jewellery, priced at FF 450.

Scarves and jewelry available from: J M Bourdon, Espace François André, 44500 La Baule-Pecq, La Galerie de Glaces, 3 Place Massena 06000, Nice; and Lalique, 11 Rue Royale 75008, Paris.



Lalique's new jewellery

FOR those to whom Sunday lunch in summer would not be complete without the delicate flavour of asparagus, at last there is a simple solution to the problem of tough stems and soggy spears. Lagostina's specially designed *cuit-asperges* allows the stems to cook quickly at a high temperature while keeping the tips out of the water. Priced at FF 660, the stainless-steel device is available from Jassier Paris, 42 Avenue des Fourrissaines, Avignon; A la grossescheine, 59 Rue des République, Toulouse, and Galeries Lafayette, 40 Boulevard Haussmann, Paris.

LOVERS of French design who are planning on motoring through the South this summer should make a detour on to the road between La-Coule-sur-Loup and Saint-Paul-de-Vence to stop at the old village station which is now transformed into Les Coulées du Temps. The new shop stocks an eclectic selection of furniture, china and fabrics, including Biot glassware and furniture. The shop also has a permanent exhibition of Pierre Basset tiles. Les Coulées du Temps, 1119 Route de la Colle, 06570.

SUSAN BELL

**Stay half-price in
a French hotel**

The Times hotel offer will take readers to busy cities and sleepy seaside towns

HOW TO BOOK.
DISCOVER the beauty of France in style and comfort this summer and enjoy up to 50 per cent off the room rates at three and four star hotels courtesy of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

Our exclusive Passport to France offer is available at 100 participating Mercure and Alca hotels for accommodation between June 20 to September 7.

There is no limit to the



TOKEN 10

As a child, Libby Purves spent three years in Lille. The lessons she learnt have lasted



Different schoolyards, different children, different manners, a different age: a scene from the 1960s, but with lessons for the present

An intent cordiale

FRANCE, for most Britons, is the first foreign land and her language the first foreign tongue. Sorting out the junk at the back of the mind's wardrobe, most people can find French bits and pieces left over from childhood history or adolescent exploration. A verse of "Frère Jacques", croissants, pioissos, Madame Béchade, spiky handwriting on a letter ending "Veillées agréer, cher monsieur"; Maurice Chevalier, Brigitte Bardot, the Eiffel tower, snails, the illustrations in the old *Madame Souris* first French reader...

We are bound together: down the corridors of history France has been everything foreign to us, everything alien and exciting. Before we are 15 we know that she has been enemy and ally, exile and refuge.

So our response to France has little to do with contemporary squabbles, social chapters and lorry-loads of lamb. It is richer and more complicated than that. And, I submit, a great deal of it is childish, and none the worse for that. Just as children learn languages rapidly and naturally, so they often see more penetratingly into the soul of a country, and appreciate its difference. For years there have been private exchanges, school visits, *au pair* arrangements: the children have met and compared notes, and may come to a better understanding than their elders.

I had, for three years, a French childhood. It began in the late 1950s, when I was eight. As a diplomat's child I had spent my infancy in the Far East and Israel, but in the three years before we moved to Lille I was a thoroughly English child in an English village school. It was all I could properly remember, and France hit me with the same force of strangeness as it would any English child.

We lived in a courtyard — 1 Rue du Lombard — with stone lions around a

forbidden miniature garden, and within a year or two I was allowed to take the tram home from school by myself, picking up a *croque Monsieur* on the way.

These were the years of Algerian terrorism in France, and I rounded a corner to see a man lying, newly shot dead, with a crowd around him. I took judo classes with the children of M Hirsch, the préfet of the Nord department, and our instructor was a policeman who was forever having to cancel classes because he was on a course, learning the art of defusing the new plastic bombs.

Once, after judo, the préfet found that his official guest, a British minister, was on his way to a Foreign Office cocktail party at our house, and with true French practicality climbed up to the children's quarters and ordered me into the official limousine for a lift home. As we screeched through the streets with our motorcycle outriders, I vaguely remember giving Sir Keith Joseph — for it was he — a throw-by-throw account of my green belt test. I am not sure that I did not grip his lapels to demonstrate the *troisième de hanche*, a particularly nifty hip-throw. My parents, standing primly on the front step in white gloves to receive their guest, almost passed out on finding him preceded by a tousled daughter in a canvas judo suit.

But all this came later, when I was already a seasoned French schoolchild, able to swagger assuredly between fierce sessions of *le sport* and formal fingerbowl lunches at the *Prefecture*. It took a little time to learn all that. The school, a convent at 66 Rue Royale, was entered through a great pale wooden door, like a castle, and took me in with great confidence and dispatch. For the first term, an elderly nun was brought out of retirement to teach me French for an hour each day, for the rest of the time I joined a normal class. The experience has left me with an abiding anger about those child immigrants to this country who are treated both less considerately and more timidly, and barely taught their host language.

On the whole, it was my parents who found French child society the strangest. An invitation to tea would be written out formally. Once, when there was a craze about biology, my friend Véronique sent me an invitation requesting the pleasure of the company of Mlle Purves pour le goûter et pour déguster un ver. We did just that: had tea (triangular sandwiches, a piece of yellow sponge cake), put on our overalls and dissected a worm.

After three terms, I was passing ordinary tests in French grammar with the others; and so were my younger brothers, down the road with the Jesuits. I was confirmed in the Church of St Maurice in full bridal rig and became another *petite élève*.

As for the customs of school, I soon learnt to drink my bottled beer with school lunch (one litre between eight, to cursy, to wear an immaculate dark-blue tunic for gymnastics and a white one for eurythmic dancing; always to protect my clothes with a long-sleeved overall; to shake hands when I met my best friend each morning, and to be constantly the subject of that old French tradition of bourgeois childbearing, *la surveillance*. Reading Charlotte Brontë's *Villette*, years later, I completely understood the Belgian schoolmistress's emphasis on constant watching of the girls; and also the freeborn

Englishwoman's scorn at such a lack of trust. But at the time, it did not seem odd. I was un enfant, and therefore watched, and made to line up for my weekly report or "note": *T'es bien, Bien, Assez bien, ou — utter disgrace — Médiocre*.

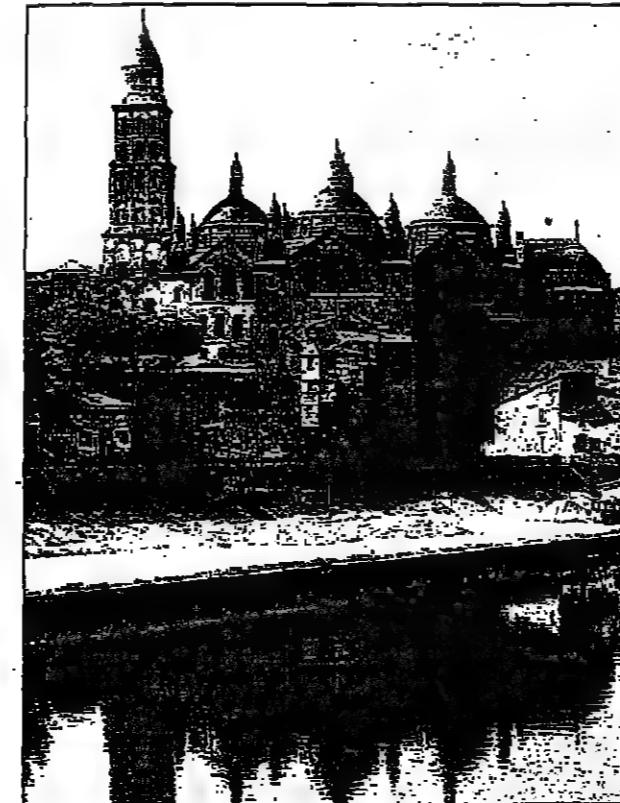
On the whole, it was my parents who found French child society the strangest. An invitation to tea would be written out formally. Once, when there was a craze about biology, my friend Véronique sent me an invitation requesting the pleasure of the company of Mlle Purves pour le goûter et pour déguster un ver. We did just that: had tea (triangular sandwiches, a piece of yellow sponge cake), put on our overalls and dissected a worm.

On holiday, we would sometimes meet other friends' lunches, perhaps, endlessly and formally around a table with three or four generations including some formidable grandmother to whom all deferred. At the beach, we played like ordinary British children, but saw our French contemporaries firmly herded for the day into the enclosure marked Club Mickey. By and large, we adapted. It was always strange to go back to England, though, where the children seemed so big and blond and undisciplined, never curving even to bishops. The France I knew may have gone now, changed without recognition. Americanised itself. But it remains the childhood of numberless French bourgeois who are now my age, negotiating in the EC or doing business with the British. Perhaps we should try to understand one another better.

Perhaps many of us do already. Has this jogged your memory? Were you an exchanged child, an au pair, or in a memorable school party? Was there a time when you saw and appreciated our differences with a clear, young eye? Did a French child — recently or long ago — come into your house and find you odd? Can you cast anecdotal light upon the gulf between us? If so, write



Libby Purves at confirmation

Luxuries you can afford

Oozing atmosphere: afternoon calm in Périgueux

gates and balconies representing the finest 15th, 16th and 17th-century workmanship. The city's most famous son is probably General Pierre Daumesnil. A soldier, he fought for the Vincennes fortress, he shouted to the enemy besieging the castle: "I'll surrender

when you give me back my leg."

The houses which once belonged to merchants and traders are today a mixture of shops, restaurants, hotels and private residences. Lipstick-red geraniums tumble from window boxes and mouth-watering delicacies are lined up like soldiers in shop windows.

Rue Limogeanne is crammed with food shops including a Vietnamese sandwich shop. One of the best is the *fromagerie* which specialises in goat's cheese made on local farms. Every conceivable shape and size of cheese can be found in near rows. On the other side of the street is a gift shop specialising in modern and antique perfume bottles. In the web of streets there is an artist's shop selling water colours by a local painter depicting scenes from the city and surrounding countryside. Antique shops nestle on corners and foie gras, truffles and pâtés can be found in most shops.

In the winter months connoisseurs flock to the Saturday market in Place de la Clauze for the truffle stalls. In the summer there is also a market on Wednesdays.

The wide range of restaurants signal the cosmopolitan side of Périgueux. The last time I checked, there were three Vietnamese, one Ameri-

can, a Greek, a Chinese, several Italian and lots of French cuisine.

The ancient arena is now a public park, but in its heyday it was one of the largest amphitheatres in Gaul, with room for 20,000 people. Great blocks of stone still mark the stairwells and the vaulting.

Along the river, beside the quays, the 500-year-old merchant houses are still inhabited. The old mill still stands, all that remains of the granary of the St Front chapter which used to hang right over the river.

Whether the visitor has one day or a week, the history of Périgueux can be traced and enjoyed through its streets. In July and August the Syndicat d'Initiative runs excellent guided tours.

RAY CLANCY

Pilgrim Payne & Co. Ltd.
Founded 1850

BY APPOINTMENT TO
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
CLEANERS OF SOFT FURNISHINGS AND CARPETS

To maintain their fresh, clean appearance your soft furnishings and carpets should be regularly cleaned by the specialists in this type of work.

Call us now for a prompt and reliable service.

290, 294 Lancaster Road, London W16 6QU. 081 960 5656 ESTIMATES FREE

Properties of the week**WHAT YOU CAN GET FOR**

£11,000 TO £15,000

The pair of farm cottages below, for sale at £11,000 (including agency fees) is situated in a hamlet not far from the old town of Ambazac in the Limousin region of central France. It can be reached in about two and a half hours by car from Calais. The stonebuilt cottage (left) is habitable, with water and electricity, but needs modernisation, including the installation of a bathroom. It has a living room and kitchen on the ground floor, two bedrooms upstairs, with exposed beams and open fireplaces, a large aisle suitable for conversion and a cellar for storage. The rear garden, bordered by a river, is secluded, with views over open countryside. The other cottage is prettier, but in a worse state. It needs rewiring, replumbing and the installation of a septic tank. There is one large room with an old bread oven, two bedrooms on the first floor, and an outbuilding for storage. The price includes a good chunk of land used for growing vegetables. The UK agent is Barbers 427-429 North End Road, Fulham, SW6 (071-381 0112).



£11,000

Set in the beautiful Canche Valley, about an hour from Boulogne, the attractive farmhouse below is a bargain at £14,500 (including agency fees). The area is rustic and unspoilt. The detached property, set in its own grounds with a courtyard, small garden, terrace and garage, has been restored, and so is ready to be moved into. It has a living room, kitchen and dining room, with new shuttered windows; two bedrooms and wc. The UK agent is Spratley & Co, 60 St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-240 2445).



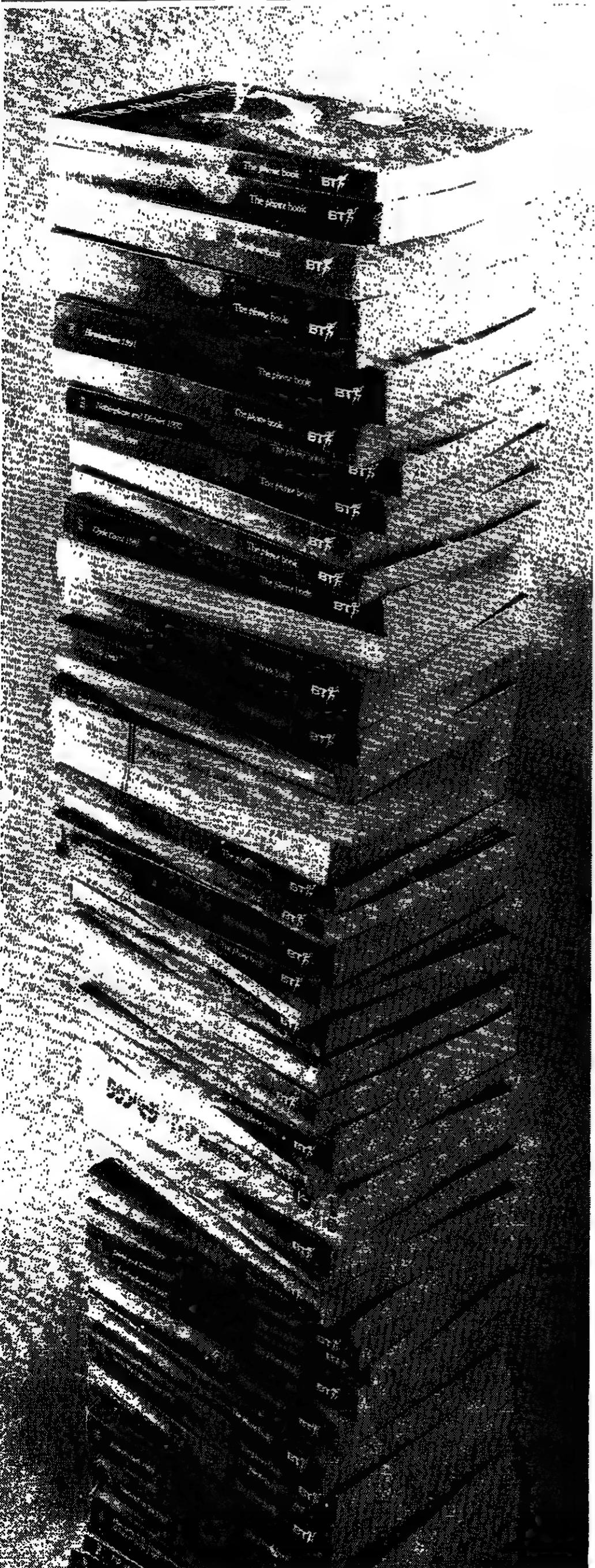
£14,500

The Dordogne is more expensive than other parts of southwest France. However, prices slip north and east of Périgueux. For £14,950 (including agency fees) you can buy this large stone house situated on the outskirts of a small town, not far from Nontron, a 90 minute drive from the airport at Bordeaux (about seven hours from Calais). There is a road to the front and side of the property, and the rear garden slopes down to a small river. The house is in good repair, but some work is needed on the roof. It comprises a large entrance hall, kitchen, wc and three large reception rooms, with old oak parquet floors, at ground level. An impressive stone staircase leads to the first floor, with four bedrooms and two bathrooms. There is also a loft suitable for conversion and a wine cellar. The UK agent is Latitudes, 14 Pipers Green Lane, Edgware, Middx (081-958 5485).

CHERYL TAYLOR



Major Rhonda Cornum: has disclosed her abuse at the hands of her Iraqi captors



Crossing the front line

Being taken prisoner may be an occupational hazard of war, but should women expect chivalry, Kate Muir asks

For more than a year Major Rhonda Cornum kept her silence. Only her family and the US Army debriefers knew the truth — that she had been brutally sexually assaulted by her Iraqi captors during the Gulf war. This week, she found a good reason to speak out about her ordeal.

She was giving evidence to a presidential commission on the role of women in the military, a commission which senior Democrats say is heavily biased against allowing female soldiers any closer to the front line than at present. As a helicopter pilot, one of the two female prisoners in the war, Major Cornum's testimony will have great weight in any decision to change the combat rules.

She told the commission she was violated by Iraqi guards. The assault was made more distressing by the fact she had broken both arms and a knee as the helicopter crashed in enemy territory.

This account was very different from the one the 36-year-old pilot gave soon after returning from Saudi Arabia. Then she told reporters: "I was not tortured. I was not beaten... and the worst that had happened to her was being pulled by the hair and kicked

from behind in the initial minutes of her capture. This extreme watering down of the truth must have been demanded by the American defence department — information on the fate of the 23 American male prisoners of war was also delayed during post-war euphoria.

Later, it all came out. The men, mostly pilots, were given electric shocks, kicked, beaten with rubber hoses and made the subject of mock executions during interrogations. The impression was still given, however, that Major Cornum, and a captured truck driver, Army Specialist Melissa Rathbun-Nealy, had benefited from Muslim chivalry towards women.

The first reports said that Specialist Rathbun-Nealy had been treated so well she put on weight, and her parents said the Iraqis told her she was a hero "as brave as Stallone and as beautiful as Brooke Shields". Only after some time was it said that she had been kicked and beaten by the soldiers who captured her.

An army spokesman said this week that the sexual assault on Major Cornum had not been disclosed "because of sensitivity and privacy". Yet Major Cornum, a strong advocate for the opening up of all military jobs to women, decided her experience mattered to the debate.

She stood before the commission in her dress uniform and service medals and said

that the possibility of sexual assault should not keep women from serving in combat. Being raped by the enemy "should be considered an occupational hazard of going to war".

Carolyn Beirat, a former soldier and longtime Congress lobbyist for women soldiers, says: "Rhonda's attitude is that she's a grown woman, she's doing what she wants to do, and she knows the risks. She wants to be the best she can be, and thinks the restrictions are silly."

Last year, the Americans withdrew the law which banned women from becoming fighter pilots or flying helicopter gunships, much to the consternation of President Bush (a former second world war pilot) and the far-right of the Republican party. The performance of 33,000 women in the Gulf war helped to push the change through in America and in Britain, where the flight combat ban was also dropped. Ms Beirat and the National Organisation for Women assumed that the barriers were down, and it would not be long before the laws banning women from sea and ground combat would go, too.

"But we forgot it was election year," Ms Beirat says. Some Republicans in the Senate wanted to stall the female fighter pilot programme, and set up the Presidential commission which has until November to report. So women pilots like Major Cornum, who welcomed the chance to take their careers further, were held on the starting line.

The frustration was enough to make her speak frankly, as was the composition of the commission which includes retired generals and the vice-president of the far-right Heritage Foundation, as well as Elaine Donnelly who ran the Coalition for Military Readiness when it spearheaded the campaign against women in combat. Democratic Representative Pat Schroeder, after proposing more than a dozen names to the White House, all of which were rejected, said: "The composition is a complete disappointment. Women in the military will never get a fair shake because this commission is chock-full of old-school military thinkers. When the commission comes back opposing further gains

'Rhonda's attitude is that she is doing what she wants to do'

men to be more severe to the sound of sight of a woman being tortured than they do to a man.

"The people running the POW survival courses have made a decision to train men out of this attitude. There are serious implications there, about training large groups of young men insensitive to a woman's pain."

The two women were not the first women POWs — more than a hundred American Army and navy nurses were held for three years in Japanese prisoner of war camps in the second world war, so the debate is not new.

Major Cornum, who is married with a 15-year-old daughter, has now fully recovered from her injuries and is attending a senior officers' course at the Air War College in Alabama. Despite the assault, she thought her treatment could have been worse, but whether that was to do with her sex, or the timing of the capture, remains a moot point.

She told the committee: "I think we had a decided advantage because we got shot down on the last day of the war, and I don't think they saw much benefit to interrogating on the very last day of the war when they knew they were losing... we were interrogated, but you know, they didn't just take rubber hoses and beat us if we said the wrong thing."

"Some other people had some bad times. The guy who got hooked up to the car battery and was buzzed when he gave the wrong answers probably had a bad — a worse time than I did."

All in a day's work

North Sea oil workers must undergo fearsome survival training

To one for whom the attractions of Territorial Army hikes or bungee jumping have always been obscure, the prospect of learning how to escape from a submerged helicopter in a freezing swimming pool, while upside down, is not obviously appealing.

However, I was to visit a British Gas oil rig in the North Sea, and British Gas insist that those visiting rigs attend a one-day offshore survival course. So, I found myself at the Humberside Offshore Training Association (HOTA) in Hull. Last year 3,000 North Sea workers were put through 40 different courses — but its new state-of-the-art facilities, in operation since April, were opened officially by the Prince of Wales this week.

The group I joined ranged from experienced technicians on refresher courses to young engineers who had never been off British soil.

The morning was given over to putting on survival suits, performing artificial respiration and showing slides of happy people sliding about in life jackets; this was just a smokescreen for the events of the afternoon. "I'm a bit nervous about the swimming pool," said a heating technician due to go on to the Piper Beta platform in a few weeks. "Basically, I can't swim very well."

During the swimming session trainees are expected to leap off a 16ft platform, swim my down a scramble net, right a capsized liferaft and get out

of a submerged helicopter, all in a mock survival suit.

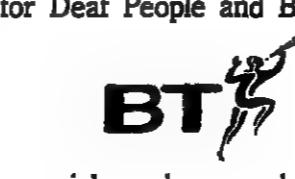
"I would like to have this water the same temperature as the North Sea, but we're not allowed," said Mike Gowland, the head of the survival training unit. In the morning, Mr Gowland had been a kindly type, lecturing with his pointer and set of slides about things such as how best to abseil off an oil rig.

Now, standing by the 16ft drop, he had turned into a kind of marine nightmare. "There are three ways off this platform," he told his shivering charges. "Rope, scramble net, or jump. There are no stairs. And if you do not jump in the correct manner, you will have to come back up and do the whole procedure again."

So we jumped, we all jumped; even a vertigo-stricken geologist from British Gas who had to take advantage of Mr Gowland's gentle push. "Form a huddle. Do your roll call," bellowed Mr Gowland via a microphone, once we were all in.

Wave simulators, smoke simulators, sound effects all are used by HOTA to give people an idea of what might happen, should the worst occur on a rig. Abandoning platform, a particularly nasty exercise for the five-day trainees, involves leaping off the platform in the dark, while sirens wail and smoke billows. I thought perhaps it might be nice to be Princess Anne.

ROSIE MILLARD
© Times Newspapers Ltd 1992



By dialling a special number, you let your fingers do the talking. 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the service allows you to hold a conversation via an operator. Text can be sent and replies are relayed back to appear on your text screen.

The service also works in reverse, so that hearing people can now contact deaf people by phone. So when we say volumes, we mean you can contact anybody in the world. Now that's a stack of people who are only a Typetalk call away.



THE ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEAF PEOPLE

Typetalk operates a Fair Pricing Policy. As a text user, you'll pay broadly the same as a hearing person, even though your call takes longer.

To register with Typetalk is free and information about the service is available from the address or numbers below. Now, being deaf needn't mean being out of touch.

Drink preys on the mind

WHEN Boris Yeltsin was challenging the Soviet hierarchy, stories of his drinking were legion, but such is the manipulation of the press in Moscow even today that once he became leader of Russia they have only appeared in foreign newspapers and overseas television.

The lay public assumes that the greatest danger of heavy drinking is to the patient's liver, but only in a minority of drunkards is the liver damaged; conversely the danger to the intellect in particular, and the brain in general, is often overlooked and yet is very real.

If Mr Yeltsin's liver functions have deteriorated, he alone will suffer but if his psyche has been affected by chronic alcohol poisoning, and with it the quality of his decisions, millions may be disadvantaged.

The consumption of 22 units a week, which would be considered excessive by the BMA, is unlikely to produce a Korsakoff's syndrome, a Wernicke's encephalopathy, alcoholic dementia, or cerebral atrophy in the average man but heavy drinking such as the man in the bar understands it, over 70 units a week, can cause a wide variety of neurological diseases.

Surprisingly, the existence of alcoholic dementia was disputed for generations by



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

doctors. The advent of scanning has, however, shown conclusively that excessive intake of alcohol over a long time leads to atrophy of the cerebral cortex, the area of the brain responsible for intelligence and sophisticated behaviour. As the cortex atrophies the personality of the patient suffers:

there is loss of memory, particularly for recent events, and irritable and irrational behaviour. Patients find it increasingly difficult to cope happily with the complex relationships in the family or in the community and their uncertain temper can make them a menace in business partnerships or government life.

Many heavy drinkers eat inadequately, in which case the drinking is often associated with thiamine (vitamin B) deficiency. This can produce Korsakoff's syndrome which, when associated with damage to the cranial or peripheral nervous system, is known as the Korsakoff-Wernicke's syndrome. In pure Korsakoff's syndrome there is an absence of recent memory but skills learned before the drinking became a problem remain more or less intact. To compensate for memory loss the patient invents imaginary incidents to fill the void: the result can be startling or amusing but always confusing and sad.

Of Norfolk and typhoid

THE health of the royal family at Sandringham has been newsworthy for 121 years ever since Edward VII, then the Prince of Wales, had typhoid. It warrants a chapter in a book published this month to commemorate the 125th birthday of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Norwich (Norfolk and Norwich Medicine, £10). The book, by Dr Anthony Barry Shaw, chronicles the remarkable part played in British medicine and public life by doctors either from, or in, Norfolk and Norwich.

In the 17th century, Norwich's Sir Thomas Browne was one of the leading physicians of the day and this eminence has continued into the 20th century; the pioneering work for hip replacements was researched in Norwich by Kenneth McKee and John Watson-Farrar; in the intermediate years Paget, Cooper, Paul, Ringer, all from or working in Norfolk, and many others have given their names to diseases, medications or instruments.

At Sandringham medical emergencies seemed to centre either on heart disease or typhoid, and the devoted care of the royal family has earned knighthoods for two local GPs. Whereas even royal drains were suspect in the 19th century, today Britons have to go overseas to catch typhoid. Until now a course of

three injections has been needed for protection but the good news is that in July Merieux will produce a single shot typhoid injection, Typhim Vi, which is as efficient as the three-dose regime, with fewer side effects and without needing later boosting. At the same time Evans Medical hope to market a three-dose oral vaccine, Vivotif, for those who cannot stand needles.

Climate of ill health

RESEARCH at the Royal London Hospital Medical College has confirmed the relationship between extremes in the British climate and death from coronary thrombosis and strokes. Patients with arterial disease should avoid becoming chilled in a cold snap, or taking heavy exercise in hot muggy weather.

It is almost universally accepted that persistent gales can play havoc with the temper in susceptible people and in France the mistral is blamed. *The Lancet* says, for any unexplained malaise or bizarre behaviour: but like the effect of the gales on a Scottish island this belief has never

been scientifically tested. A group of Austrian doctors, however, recently investigated the medical sequelae of the Tyrolean wind, the Föhn, which blows from the south and is associated with high velocity, strong turbulence and low humidity; it has traditionally been thought to cause heart attacks and other serious diseases.

Alas for popular belief, careful statistical analysis reported in *The Lancet* has not confirmed the old wives' tales.

However there is a possibility that changes in the atmospheric pressure, which may be associated with the wind, may be relevant.

After a day in the sleeping-bag, we were all three of us back on the beach and surfing as keenly as if they were going to make waves illegal. But at home the symptoms recurred as unwelcome souvenirs of the holiday. The working week started, but I wasn't in it. I surfaced briefly, had breakfast and, worn out, retired for a little shut-eye. This was interrupted by lunch, but not much. By early afternoon I was huddled under the duvet and remained like that until supper. Barely had I rearranged the pillows, than I was out for the count once more.

After that, a few moments of wakefulness occurred, but irritably enough, it was too late to get up. Naturally, I overslept next morning, awakening just in time for my mid-morning nap. I began my day when other people were ending theirs, and pretty soon was joining them in the Land of Nod. It was like having just had flu, except that I hadn't just had flu.

The pattern continued. If I did anything like an honest day's work, I felt as if I had



Read all about it: helpful leaflets are available but GPs seldom offer them to sufferers

What the doctor failed to order

The medical profession seems to have forgotten that patients need information for peace of mind. Virginia Ironside wonders why

When I mentioned the National Asthma Campaign in my agony column, it received over 5,000 enquiries. When Doreen Cope of Arthritis Care — arthritis being the largest single cause of physical disability in the country — receives a similar burst of enquiries engendered by the media, she wonders: "Why on earth weren't they given the information about by their GPs?"

In September the Patients' Association plans to publish its new *Health Directory* with about 1,500 addresses of groups that exist to help patients. These organisations deal with everything from endometriosis, incontinence, hypothyroidism, and vitiligo to seasonal affective disorder, myotonic dystrophy and psoriasis... and hundreds of others.

"We feel every GP should have a copy of the book, but even if they do, we know they're often reluctant to pass on information," says Linda Lamont, the director of the Patients' Association. "And their training doesn't help poor things. They have all these loads of facts dumped on them, instead of being trained to find out how to find out things."

Medical training has conventionally consisted of stuffing a medical student with all there was to know, and then sending him off to practise. At a time when there was very slow progress in medical knowledge this

worked well. But the training has remained the same while the world of medicine is changing very rapidly. Despite a recent General Medical Council document that recommends that students should be taught more communications skills, the medical training can still be archaic.

Roger Higgs, a professor in general practice and primary care at King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, says: "It's true that doctors very seldom give out names of self-help groups. Our role has always been to take a history, make an examination and then advise on a specific treatment. And most doctors feel that when they've offered and explained the treatment that's as far as they can go. Only recently has anyone come to realise that treatment includes information."

He adds: "All professionals do like to feel they're handling their clients' problems as totally as they can on their own. You go to a lawyer and you expect advice on your individual case not to be referred to law books."

Professor Higgs feels this could change. "When I teach students now

I get them to practice the phrase: 'I don't know' or 'I'm not sure'."

But recommending groups? Professor Higgs is wary. "Doctors don't have time to check out groups; they may not have personal experience of them."

Roger Higgs, a professor in general practice and primary care at King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, says: "It's true that doctors very seldom give out names of self-help groups. Our role has always been to take a history, make an examination and then advise on a specific treatment. And most doctors feel that when they've offered and explained the treatment that's as far as they can go. Only recently has anyone come to realise that treatment includes information."

He adds: "All professionals do like to feel they're handling their clients' problems as totally as they can on their own. You go to a lawyer and you expect advice on your individual case not to be referred to law books."

Professor Higgs feels this could change. "When I teach students now

psychiatry at the University of Manchester, whose main interest is in working with practitioners to improve their communication skills. "There's lots of evidence that people come to medical school as quite nice human beings but the medical education has a detrimental effect on them," she says.

But Professor Higgs feels that there is much to say for the present patient/doctor relationship. "Many people come to us with chaos and want their pain and problems to be made more simple. Helping them to see things in the framework of disease and treatment is one way of steady things up," he says.

Bob Gunn, the director of the Help for Health Trust in Winchester, thinks some doctors' unwillingness to recommend self-help groups or to give written information is partly because they see it as "an erosion of power and mystique and partly because they often underestimate the capacity of patients to take in information and use it for themselves. They want to do the best for their patients but feel it's they who should

deliver it. It's kind of benevolent paternalism."

Ms Lamont goes further. "They often wrongly view too many of their patients as being hopeless, limp individuals. One of our clients who had recurrent cystitis and was being treated without success, read up on the subject extensively. But when she went to her GP she was virtually ordered 'not to read books'."

Some doctors simply do not have the information to pass on. Dr Gask says: "It's not unusual to find they're not familiar with quite good information leaflets, and often don't have good links with their local health promotion departments. There's a kind of information block."

Professor Higgs points out that the patient is sometimes to blame for not getting the information. "People complain of not being given information but often they won't ask."

But then patients often worry about asking for information because it seems rude — they might feel they are questioning the doctor's authority if they ask if there is any literature or a group to help.

Since April, the Patients' Charter has resulted in the setting up of 14 Regional Health Information Services, based on Mr Gunn's Help for Health model, all obliged to provide information about waiting lists, NHS services, self-help groups, common illnesses and so on. Now in every region there is a local service that will give out such information for the cost of a local phone call.

But will doctors ring it? Of the 10,000 people who rang the Help for Health Trust in 1991, only 400 were GPs and 40 calls were from hospital doctors, 25 from the same person.

Things are changing. The Royal College of Surgeons is producing written information on certain common operations — but when I rang the information office the person there told me that she did not know anything about it. It seemed sadly symptomatic of the whole business.

• *Arthritis Care* free helpline: 0800 289170. *National Asthma Campaign helpline* (all calls charged at local rates): 0345 010203
© Times Newspapers Ltd 1992

Tired of 40 winks

Constant need of sleep was the only symptom . . .

ploited an ocean liner through a typhoon while simultaneously revising for an exam on microsurgery — and then presented the Budget speech in Parliament. I passed some of my few waking hours by phoning friends at their offices, but they, too, seemed to be off with, as their colleagues



explained dismissively, some sort of sleeping sickness. Being semi-employed, I was spared the phone calls from a nagging boss; unfortunately, I was also spared the regular salary that employers pay out even to sick employees. I woke up to the fact that it was time for my first sick note since 1967, so I somnambulated down to the surgery.

After that, a few moments of wakefulness occurred, but irritably enough, it was too late to get up. Naturally, I overslept next morning, awakening just in time for my mid-morning nap. I began my day when other people were ending theirs, and pretty soon was joining them in the Land of Nod. It was like having just had flu, except that I hadn't just had flu.

The pattern continued. If I did anything like an honest day's work, I felt as if I had

been to bed. I shall be asleep. I have become the Rip Van Winkle of south London. Some suffer from insomnia; I seem to have gone down with a nasty bout of somnia.

My sleeping sickness began half-way through a camping holiday with three other families last August. Sometimes a thin scum drifted on the water of the Cornish bay. It may not have come from the town round the headland, and it may not have caused the mystery lurgi, but something did. In three out of our party's four tents, one miserable camper went down with drowsiness, dizziness and an upset stomach. I was our family's sacrificial victim.

After a day in the sleeping-bag, we were all three of us back on the beach and surfing as keenly as if they were going to make waves illegal. But at home the symptoms recurred as unwelcome souvenirs of the holiday. The working week started, but I wasn't in it. I surfaced briefly, had breakfast and, worn out, retired for a little shut-eye. This was interrupted by lunch, but not much. By early afternoon I was huddled under the duvet and remained like that until supper. Barely had I rearranged the pillows, than I was out for the count once more.

After that, a few moments of wakefulness occurred, but irritably enough, it was too late to get up. Naturally, I overslept next morning, awakening just in time for my mid-morning nap. I began my day when other people were ending theirs, and pretty soon was joining them in the Land of Nod. It was like having just had flu, except that I hadn't just had flu.

The pattern continued. If I did anything like an honest day's work, I felt as if I had

Why do I have asthma?

For up to 85% of allergic asthma sufferers, House Dust Mites could be the cause of their problem.

Thousands of House Dust Mites are found in the pillows, mattresses and carpets of bedrooms. Although they're too small to see, they produce powerful allergens which can bring on asthma attacks, eczema, runny noses and sneezing in sensitive people.

Actomite is an easy-to-use, CFC-free spray which kills House Dust Mites, their larvae and eggs, yet leaves a room perfectly safe for you to use.

It's economical too; because Actomite reduces the House Dust Mite population so effectively, allergen levels take several months to build up again, so you only need a single treatment once every three months. And if you, or a member of your family are a chronic asthma or eczema sufferer, there's no need to pay VAT. (Ask your chemist for details.)

There is still no easy answer for asthma, but Actomite can free your family from at least one serious risk.

ACTOMITE

Actively Controls House Dust Mites



Available from the Healthcare Department of Boots, Lloyds Chemists and your Local Chemist.

NOW VAT FREE*

"With BUPA from £9 a month*, you've got to find out more"

For details telephone free on

0800 600 555

or return the coupon today

To BUPA Healthchoice Dept. 36, FREEPOST, Cedar House, Buntingford, Middlesex TW11 3RE. Please send me a BUPA Healthchoice pack. I am under 16.
Surname _____
Initials _____ Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/>
Address _____
Date of birth (dd/mm/yy) _____ (mm/yy) _____
Occupation _____
Self-employed Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Are you a BUPA member? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, state BUPA registration number _____

BUPA Healthchoice

JONATHAN SALE
© Times Newspapers Ltd 1992

Actomite is a trademark of Davie. *Only claimants suffering from asthma.

Read Label Before Use. Use the product safely. Actomite contains 5-bromochloro-2-isopropylbenzene.

Just the chap for the job

Nicholas Soames, the food minister, seems better suited than many lean and hungry-looking politicians to becoming the "consumers' champion" (this own job description). But the wide-girthed MP for Crawley, was giving bread basket, wine list and sweet trolley a wide berth when we met for lunch at Christopher's in London's Covent Garden.

He chose a caesar salad and cold poached salmon — washed down with mineral water and fresh orange juice — and somewhat wistfully recommended the Häagen-Dazs ice cream which he had forsaken, together with other indulgences, "in anticipation of a lovely, long weekend in the country — and because I'm trying to develop beach cred".

But the sausage tastings and cookery competition judgings sandwiched between innumerable invitations to lunch would take their toll on waistlines controlled by much stronger willpower. So why should Mr Soames — clearly revelling in his new role — not enjoy his just desserts?

Appointed in April as parliamentary secretary responsible for food science and safety, meat hygiene, pesticide safety, biotechnology and animal health and husbandry at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) he says, "I'm thrilled — I love every second."

"I've never understood people who were blasé about becoming ministers. Although it sounds pompous to say one feels a sense of history, I do feel a definite sense of something. The first time I sat behind the dispatch box was one of the proudest moments of my life."

He feels that food is a subject whose time has come. "Food is the living part of everyone's lives. We spend £50 a year on food to eat at home, and £20 billion on eating out — just over 9 per cent of the total Gross Domestic Product".

Mr Soames acknowledges that salmonella and the other great food scares of the late 1980s — listeria and BSE, the "mad cow disease" — caused a dramatic loss of public confidence in the safety of food. But he thinks that MAFF has, through the Food Safety Act, "restored confidence in the food chain".

Since Mr Soames had just been appointed when I spoke to him, he had not yet seen a copy of *Food and*

Nicholas Soames is jolly happy, says Victoria McKee



Fresh face: minister for food

Health — Geoffrey Cannon's analysis for the Consumer's Association of "one hundred authoritative scientific reports on food, nutrition and public health published throughout the world between 1961 and 1991", and was therefore reluctant to endorse Mr Cannon's call for "a commitment to the view that the quality of food is crucial to the prevention of disease".

The link between food and health, which Mr Cannon believes is as strong as the more traditional one between food and agriculture, is something Mr Soames does not yet feel qualified to discuss. Yet Mr Cannon, whose report condemns the government for being so slow to accept that a diet high in fibre and low in sugar and saturated fat is "the best diet for slimmers, to avoid disease and for general good health" — considers Mr Soames "a good egg".

He is also a very diplomatic egg. He does not wish to add his voice to the great school meals debate, feeling that this is an issue for the health department. (*The White Paper on health, due next month, is expected to set guidelines.*) He has

no master plan for creating a master race of super-fit children, nor any particular concern about children's eating habits, but intends to weigh the representations of organisations such as Parents For Safe Food, which is supporting the school meals campaign, carefully.

Although he is not often to be found wheeling a trolley around the supermarket he knows that "consumers have never been better informed, never been able to buy a greater variety of food of such good quality with so much detailed information provided on the labels", and commends MAFF's range of free pamphlets on everything from healthy eating to food safety.

He marvels at the inner city schoolchildren he talked to on the MAFF stand at the food and farming festival in Hyde Park in May, who asked whether a pig laid eggs. It might amuse them to know that Mr Soames admitted, not long before his elevation to food minister, that he could not even boil one — although he still manages to hold dinner parties for up to 30 foodie friends. "Half of those children couldn't tell the difference between a chicken and a duck," he says.

He refuses to be drawn into discussion on Common Agricultural Policy or why, with increasing consumer interest in organic produce (82 per cent demand compared with 0.2 per cent production, according to The Soil Association) farmers are not being given greater support during the costly changeover years.

"Organic farming is a very good idea but it is only just beginning to appear, and farming life is evolutionary, not revolutionary," he says. "We have to pick our way through what all the pressure groups are asking. There's a lot of science involved in this and I'm not a scientist and don't pretend to be." He breaks off to eulogise the MAFF scientists — who have recently developed tests to show whether badgers are carrying TB which will save many of them from destruction, he says — and the legions of civil servants who collect, collate and spew forth data in a form that food ministers can more easily digest. He also heaps praise on food retailers such as Marks & Spencer who demand such high standards from their suppliers.

"I had a smoked salmon business in Dumfriesshire, and he wanted to sell to M&S and they made him establish the most fantastic control systems," he says. "That's because under the 'due diligence' rule supermarkets must prove that they took every reasonable step along the way to ensure that their food is safe and of a consistent quality."

Mr Soames's appointment to the ministry made it clear that the post was thought to require a farmer's friend who is sentimental about nature, knowing it to be red in tooth and claw. "Some people have a very idealised view of the countryside with all these sweet little furry creatures," he says. "They don't

understand it." He admits that "vegetarianism is beyond me" and lists his favourite meal as saddle of roebuck, and he clearly cares more about food that tastes good for you. "I like good food," he says. "Italian, Chinese, or English food cooked well."

He considers himself a countryman, and is a lover of most of the great and gory country pursuits, and usually spends weekends at his mother's country estate. "When I was young my parents lived at Chartwell Farm and my father ran it for my grandfather," he says. "I grew up among cows and pigs. It's my great sadness that I don't live in the country now, but I only work in

the city so weeks I can enjoy the country at weekends."

That of course, was only his sentiment before he landed the job of his dreams. Now that being out to lunch is all in a day's work, city life may seem more appealing. "I don't think there's anyone in Whitehall with a more interesting portfolio," agrees Mr Soames, managing to sound as if he welcomes the idea of abbatoir visits as well as judging young cook of the year competitions.

He does everything — badgers, mad cow disease, rabies, salmonella — you name it. Biotechnology is fantastically interesting — the very frontiers of food science — horses are great fun, and animal welfare is

terribly important," he says.

Has he forgotten that a short time ago he was quoted as saying that a government job (salary £44,061) "wouldn't even pay for my cartridges"? He acknowledges the quote — and the renunciation of several profitable non-executive directorships — with a wry grin. Now that he's taken what he refers to as "my vows of poverty, chastity and obedience", San Lorenzo, Wilson's The Savoy Grill and other top London restaurants are "places I can't afford any more", he says, sipping his mineral water.

Fortunately, as food minister, he will not have to worry where his next meal is coming from.

© Times Newspapers Ltd 1992

CAR BUYERS GUIDE

071-481 9313
071-782 7828

Trade: 071-481 4422
Private: 071-481 4000

ALFA ROMEO

91(H) ALFA ROMEO SPIDER

Red, RHD, Tax Lessor, Hard & Soft Top, 3000 miles, £16,500

GILLANDERS INTERNATIONAL

2034 020301

SWISTER Convertible D Top, Silver, 20,000 miles, FSH, Immaculate condition, £34,000. Tel: 0296 641232

GENERAL

HONDA Legend '97 Tax & MOT, 89,000 miles, usual refinements £4,995, ono. Tel: 0222 498707

MITSUBISHI Space Wagon GLX, J Reg, 8 weeks old, 20,000 miles, 5 door hatchback, Overseas move forces sale £14,500. Tel: 0628 364961

RENAULT 21 GTES Automatic, 1989, 17,000 miles, injection, power steering, air con, leather, pack, radio-cassette, Immaculate, £10,000. Tel: 071-372 0667

MOTORS WANTED

TOYTAS WANTED Cash or swap, 1.3, 1.6, 1.8, 2.0, 2.2, 2.5, 2.8, 3.0, 3.2, 3.5, 3.8, 4.0, 4.2, 4.6, 5.0, 5.6, 6.0, 6.3, 6.5, 6.8, 7.0, 7.2, 7.4, 7.6, 7.8, 8.0, 8.2, 8.4, 8.6, 8.8, 9.0, 9.2, 9.4, 9.6, 9.8, 10.0, 10.2, 10.4, 10.6, 10.8, 11.0, 11.2, 11.4, 11.6, 11.8, 12.0, 12.2, 12.4, 12.6, 12.8, 13.0, 13.2, 13.4, 13.6, 13.8, 14.0, 14.2, 14.4, 14.6, 14.8, 15.0, 15.2, 15.4, 15.6, 15.8, 16.0, 16.2, 16.4, 16.6, 16.8, 17.0, 17.2, 17.4, 17.6, 17.8, 18.0, 18.2, 18.4, 18.6, 18.8, 19.0, 19.2, 19.4, 19.6, 19.8, 20.0, 20.2, 20.4, 20.6, 20.8, 21.0, 21.2, 21.4, 21.6, 21.8, 22.0, 22.2, 22.4, 22.6, 22.8, 23.0, 23.2, 23.4, 23.6, 23.8, 24.0, 24.2, 24.4, 24.6, 24.8, 25.0, 25.2, 25.4, 25.6, 25.8, 26.0, 26.2, 26.4, 26.6, 26.8, 27.0, 27.2, 27.4, 27.6, 27.8, 28.0, 28.2, 28.4, 28.6, 28.8, 29.0, 29.2, 29.4, 29.6, 29.8, 30.0, 30.2, 30.4, 30.6, 30.8, 31.0, 31.2, 31.4, 31.6, 31.8, 32.0, 32.2, 32.4, 32.6, 32.8, 33.0, 33.2, 33.4, 33.6, 33.8, 34.0, 34.2, 34.4, 34.6, 34.8, 35.0, 35.2, 35.4, 35.6, 35.8, 36.0, 36.2, 36.4, 36.6, 36.8, 37.0, 37.2, 37.4, 37.6, 37.8, 38.0, 38.2, 38.4, 38.6, 38.8, 39.0, 39.2, 39.4, 39.6, 39.8, 40.0, 40.2, 40.4, 40.6, 40.8, 41.0, 41.2, 41.4, 41.6, 41.8, 42.0, 42.2, 42.4, 42.6, 42.8, 43.0, 43.2, 43.4, 43.6, 43.8, 44.0, 44.2, 44.4, 44.6, 44.8, 45.0, 45.2, 45.4, 45.6, 45.8, 46.0, 46.2, 46.4, 46.6, 46.8, 47.0, 47.2, 47.4, 47.6, 47.8, 48.0, 48.2, 48.4, 48.6, 48.8, 49.0, 49.2, 49.4, 49.6, 49.8, 50.0, 50.2, 50.4, 50.6, 50.8, 51.0, 51.2, 51.4, 51.6, 51.8, 52.0, 52.2, 52.4, 52.6, 52.8, 53.0, 53.2, 53.4, 53.6, 53.8, 54.0, 54.2, 54.4, 54.6, 54.8, 55.0, 55.2, 55.4, 55.6, 55.8, 56.0, 56.2, 56.4, 56.6, 56.8, 57.0, 57.2, 57.4, 57.6, 57.8, 58.0, 58.2, 58.4, 58.6, 58.8, 59.0, 59.2, 59.4, 59.6, 59.8, 60.0, 60.2, 60.4, 60.6, 60.8, 61.0, 61.2, 61.4, 61.6, 61.8, 62.0, 62.2, 62.4, 62.6, 62.8, 63.0, 63.2, 63.4, 63.6, 63.8, 64.0, 64.2, 64.4, 64.6, 64.8, 65.0, 65.2, 65.4, 65.6, 65.8, 66.0, 66.2, 66.4, 66.6, 66.8, 67.0, 67.2, 67.4, 67.6, 67.8, 68.0, 68.2, 68.4, 68.6, 68.8, 69.0, 69.2, 69.4, 69.6, 69.8, 70.0, 70.2, 70.4, 70.6, 70.8, 71.0, 71.2, 71.4, 71.6, 71.8, 72.0, 72.2, 72.4, 72.6, 72.8, 73.0, 73.2, 73.4, 73.6, 73.8, 74.0, 74.2, 74.4, 74.6, 74.8, 75.0, 75.2, 75.4, 75.6, 75.8, 76.0, 76.2, 76.4, 76.6, 76.8, 77.0, 77.2, 77.4, 77.6, 77.8, 78.0, 78.2, 78.4, 78.6, 78.8, 79.0, 79.2, 79.4, 79.6, 79.8, 80.0, 80.2, 80.4, 80.6, 80.8, 81.0, 81.2, 81.4, 81.6, 81.8, 82.0, 82.2, 82.4, 82.6, 82.8, 83.0, 83.2, 83.4, 83.6, 83.8, 84.0, 84.2, 84.4, 84.6, 84.8, 85.0, 85.2, 85.4, 85.6, 85.8, 86.0, 86.2, 86.4, 86.6, 86.8, 87.0, 87.2, 87.4, 87.6, 87.8, 88.0, 88.2, 88.4, 88.6, 88.8, 89.0, 89.2, 89.4, 89.6, 89.8, 90.0, 90.2, 90.4, 90.6, 90.8, 91.0, 91.2, 91.4, 91.6, 91.8, 92.0, 92.2, 92.4, 92.6, 92.8, 93.0, 93.2, 93.4, 93.6, 93.8, 94.0, 94.2, 94.4, 94.6, 94.8, 95.0, 95.2, 95.4, 95.6, 95.8, 96.0, 96.2, 96.4, 96.6, 96.8, 97.0, 97.2, 97.4, 97.6, 97.8, 98.0, 98.2, 98.4, 98.6, 98.8, 99.0, 99.2, 99.4, 99.6, 99.8, 99.9, 100.0, 100.1, 100.2, 100.3, 100.4, 100.5, 100.6, 100.7, 100.8, 100.9, 100.10, 100.11, 100.12, 100.13, 100.14, 100.15, 100.16, 100.17, 100.18, 100.19, 100.20, 100.21, 100.22, 100.23, 100.24, 100.25, 100.26, 100.27, 100.28, 100.29, 100.30, 100.31, 100.32, 100.33, 100.34, 100.35, 100.36, 100.37, 100.38, 100.39, 100.40, 100.41, 100.42, 100.43, 100.44, 100.45, 100.46, 100.47, 100.48, 100.49, 100.50, 100.51, 100.52, 100.53, 100.54, 100.55, 100.56, 100.57, 100.58, 100.59, 100.60, 100.61, 100.62, 100.63, 100.64, 100.65, 100.66, 100.67, 100.68, 100.69, 100.70, 100.71, 100.72, 100.73, 100.74, 100.75, 100.76, 100.77, 100.78, 100.79, 100.80, 100.81, 100.82, 100.83, 100.84, 100.85, 100.86, 100.87, 100.88, 100.89, 100.90, 100.91, 100.92, 100.93, 100.94, 100.95, 100.96, 100.97, 100.98, 100.99, 100.100, 100.101, 100.102, 100.103, 100.104, 100.105, 100.106, 100.107, 100.108, 100.109, 100.110, 100.111, 100.112, 100.113, 100.114, 100.115, 100.116, 100.117, 100.118, 100.119, 100.120, 100.121, 100.122, 100.123, 100.124, 100.125, 100.126, 100.127, 100.128, 100.129, 100.130, 100.131, 100.132, 100.133, 100.134, 100.135, 100.136, 100.137, 100.138, 100.139, 100.140, 100.141

MOTORING TIMES

Right micro, wrong climate

The Japanese have produced some little winners — but there's a catch. Kevin Eason reports

Honda's small and perfectly formed, and they combine economy motoring with style: micro cars, tiny models with 650cc engines and offering at least 50 miles of travel to every gallon, could be the answer to city congestion and pollution.

Cars like the Honda Beat are attention grabbers. The Beat is a surprising two-seater with stunning looks, futuristic dashboard, fabulous stereo and air-conditioning, all contained in a body that you could almost park in the boot of a Rolls-Royce.

It would be the perfect car for city commuting... except that Honda will not sell it to you.

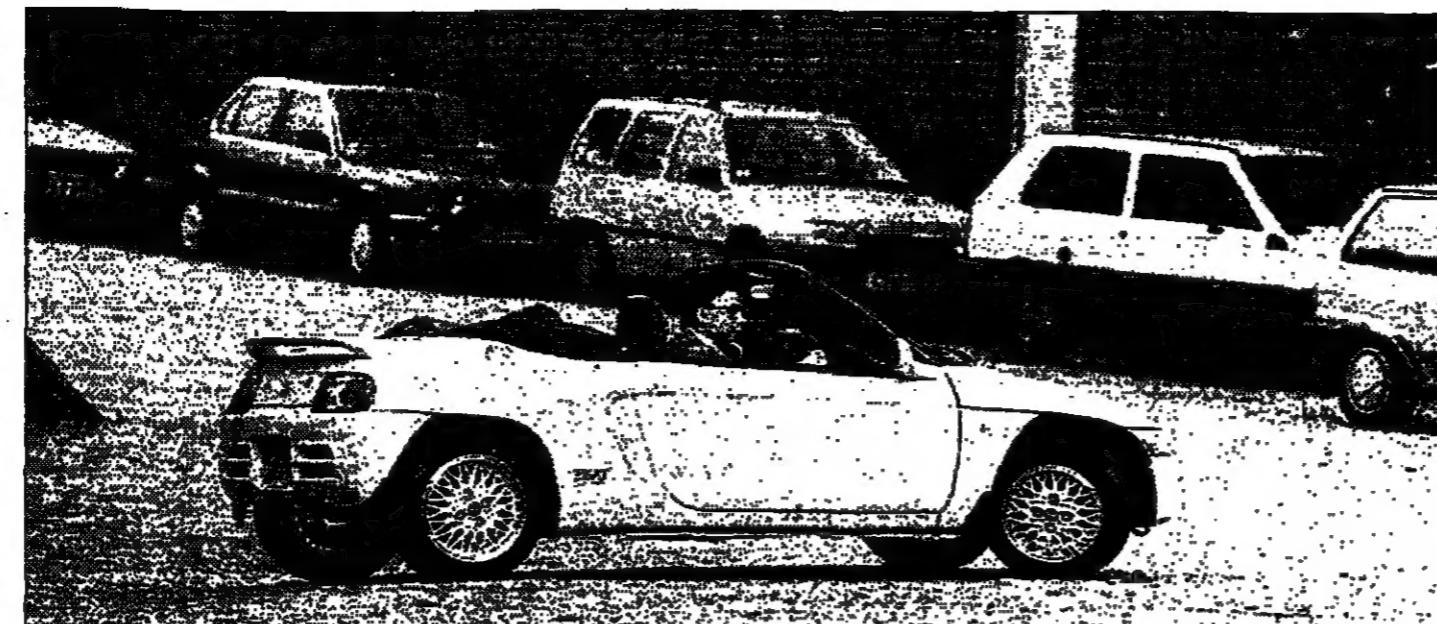
Neither will Daihatsu sell you one of the stunning little cars it is unveiling in secret this weekend. Nor will Mitsubishi bring you one of its clever micro-machines, which sell in huge numbers in Japan.

Japanese manufacturers operating in Britain are governed by strict quotas, about 11 per cent of all sales in the United Kingdom. Daihatsu knows now that it will sell 7,000 cars this year, even if there were queues around every one of its British dealer showrooms desperate to place an order.

Honda is similarly limited to about 25,000 cars. To sell the Beat here, the car would have to be put through rigorous homologation tests, which can cost more than £1 million for one model range, to comply with British legislation. Then to make a profit on a car which sells for only £5,000 in Japan, Honda would have to sell the Beat in large numbers.

That would mean displacing some of the company's bigger cars and Honda can sell every one they can get into the country at much better profits. There is a two-month waiting list for the new Prelude coupe, for example.

"It simply is not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or



Compact: a privately imported Honda Beat; and below, Daihatsu's Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato



£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.

The Japanese, however, have used their technical know-how to return to truly small cars. Both Daihatsu's models have turbocharged, intercooled 659cc 12-valve engines along with power steering and air-conditioning.

The Beat is also a 650cc marvel but only 129in long, about 9in longer than a Mini but not far from half the length of the new Bentley

coupe, for example.

"It is simply not worth the effort of bringing the Beat in," says Paul Ormond, of Honda. "While the quota rules exist, we cannot. It would end up costing £12,000 or

£13,000, which would price it out of its market."

Daihatsu is showing two remarkable new micro cars this weekend, but only to journalists attending a seminar in Jersey. The company makes 500,000 micro cars a year for Japan, and has no plans to sell the Beat in large numbers.

Yet Peter Rawlinson, the company's public relations manager, agrees that the oddly named Mira Turbo TRXX Avanzato and the Lezza OXY-R could add a new dimension to city driving in Britain. "They save space and they are remarkably economical," he says.

There is nothing new about

economical city cars. There is the Mini, for example, and the Fiat 500. But both have put on weight with age. The Mini carries a 1-litre engine in standard form and the Fiat 500 has turned into a 900cc car.</

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax (26812) 6.30 BBC Breakfast News (42220183)
 9.05 Perfect Strangers. American comedy series about two long-lost cousins (r) (6401366) 9.30 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pepin prepares... boiled eggplant rolls, red snapper in potato jackets with salad, and baked apple tart (28947).
 10.00 News, regional news and weather (6073102) 11.05 Travel Show Guides. The second of a two-part look at what southern California has to offer the tourist (r) (Ceefax) (1645675) 11.35 The Hogan Family. American domestic comedy (4892328).
 12.00 News, regional news and weather (7127086) 12.05 Summer Scene. Magazine series presented live from the National Garden Festival in Ebbw Vale by Caron Keating and Linda Mitchell (8657286) 12.55 Sports News and weather (60057560)
 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) Weather (84676) 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (59820183).
 1.50 Film: Spirit Image (1982) starring Michael O'Keefe, Karen Allen and Peter Fonda. Solid and sometimes violent drama with O'Keefe as a young college athlete who, through a gunfire, becomes involved with a dubious religious cult that make him reject his middle-class background. Directed by Ted Kotcheff (30390134).
 3.40 Lifeline. The latest charity news and an appeal on behalf of the Oceanside Venture by Debbie Thrower (r) (4997473).
 3.50 Henry's Cat. Animation (4485373) 3.55 A Bear Behind (r) (s) (4952928) 4.05 Fantastic Max. Cartoon adventures of a playful baby (r) (5071706) 4.20 The New Lassie. (r) (Ceefax) (5554571) 4.40 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (r) (Ceefax) (472473).
 5.00 Newsround (6931367) 5.10 Troublemakers. Episode two of the six-part children's drama (r) (Ceefax) (9560270).
 5.35 Neighbours. (r) (Ceefax) (s) (408512) Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster.
 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) Weather (763).
 6.30 Regional News Magazines (265). Northern Ireland: Neighbours 7.00 European Football Championships. Desirous Lynham introduces live coverage of the group two match between CIS and Germany from Novosibirsk. Plus highlights of Scotland's first match in the European finals, against the defending champions Holland, played this afternoon in Gothenburg. The commentators are John Molson and Barry Davis (28490015).
 9.10 Nine O'Clock News with Marny Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (597944).
 9.40 Film: Running Scared (1986) starring Gregory Hines and Billy Crystal. Entertaining action comedy about two wise-cracking Chicago policemen trying to survive the mean streets long enough to retire and open a bar in the Florida Keys. Directed by Peter Hyams (s) (137305). Northern Ireland: On the Edge 10.20 Film: Airplane! (1980) 11.00 Battle of the Sexes. (r) (Ceefax) (59820183).



Battle of wits: jailed footballer Burt Reynolds (11.20pm)

11.20 Film: The Mean Machine (1974).
 ● CHOICE: Robert Aldrich, who directed *The Dirty Dozen*, returned to not dissimilar territory for this tale of a jailed football coach (Burt Reynolds) who raises a team of prisoners for a grudge match against the guards. The film is ostensibly a comedy but anyone expecting an amiable American version of *Porridge* should be warned that the humour is both black and tough. The football game is the framework for a battle of wits between Reynolds and the brutal warden (Eddie Albert), with each using the contest to make his own points. Aldrich deliberately modelled the Albert character on Richard Nixon, who while the film was being made was in the middle of the Watergate scandal. But despite such hints as the character's previous patriotism and obsessive use of a tape recorder, audiences largely missed the connection (913947). Northern Ireland: 11.40-1.10am Film: The Mummy (59634).
 1.20am Weather (3194394)

SKY NEWS

SKY ONE
 ● Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites.
 6.00am The DJ Kit Show (19837473) 8.40 Mrs Pepperpot (1585229) 8.55 Lamb Chops Play-a-long (5151299) 9.30 The Pyramid Game (88589) 10.30 Let's Make a Deal (5071706) 11.00 The Bob and Tom Show (629102) 11.00 The Times and the Restless (97154) 12.00 Star Boulevard (41812) 1.00pm E Street (91980) 1.30 Gerardo (4289312) 2.30 Another World (761328) 3.15 The DJ Kit Show (4248112) 4.00 The UK's Best (28525) 4.20 Different Stories (4318) 5.00 Love at First Sight (482311) 5.30 E Street (5183) 7.00 AF (4589) 7.30 Camelot Camera (1367) 8.00 The Flash (84541) 9.00 WWW Superstars of Wrestling (70855) 10.00 Studs (11183) 10.30 The Queen of Blood (19667) 11.00 Sports Page (59560) 12.30am Pages from SkyNet (48650) 12.30am Pages from SkyNet (48650)

SKY MOVIES+

● Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites.
 5.00am Showbiz (3671298) 10.00 Cannonball Fever (1989) Comedy

SKY NEWS

NEWS